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March 16, 2012 • No 148

Just who is behind the massive A21 cash offer?

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE mystery surrounding an anonymous benefactor who has offered a seven figure sum to help finally jump-start the desperately needed A21 dualling project, has deepened.

Details of the remarkable pledge were disclosed in a meeting of Tonbridge council's joint transportation board this week.

In a report presented to the board, transport chiefs stated: "A local has offered a seven-figure contribution subject to delivery of the scheme and their proposed planning application being successful."

But Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Kent County Council chiefs have been left scratching their heads as to the identity of the would-be donor.

The A21 plans stalled when central Government reined it its road spending. Its dualling is seen as essential to ease frequent bottle-necks across west Kent which impact particularly on Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge.

Now the latest pledge has baffled many closely involved in the project.

Chair of the Tonbridge transportation board, Nicolas Heslop said he had no idea who is behind it: "The business community is making it clear that the A21 is vital for economic growth.

"This contribution is positive, but what matters here is the contribution that Kent County Council has said it will make."

KCC, which has offered to carry out the A21 dualling scheme between Tonbridge and Pembury for £70m – around £50m less than the Highways Agency – said it was hoping to kick-start preconstruction work by offering to inject some £2-£4m into the planning process. This would cover the cost of the public inquiry, but consist of officers' time rather than cash.

KCC said the offer was made to remove any barriers that might stop the scheme progressing.

Cllr Heslop said: "Because of the cost of public inquiries, which run into the

Continued on page 2



EXPLORE THE BEAUTY

BIG WEEKEND: Attractions are expecting bumper visitor numbers **SEE INSIDE**

DEMOCRACY

Fight is on for Pembury seat

THE battle for the Pembury seat on Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has started after Lib Dem councillor Claire Brown quit the post just a year after being elected.

Mrs Brown cited "personal circumstances" as the reason for stepping down so soon from the position. **PAGE 2**

LEISURE

Finger flickin' fun returns

SUBBUTEO hits the shelves once more this week as one of the best-loved games of a generation makes a return to the high street.

Created in Tunbridge Wells, it had been overtaken by video games, but is now set for a welcome revival. We take a look at its history. **PAGE 45**

SPORT

Cricket club to jet out to SA

TUNBRIDGE Wells Cricket Club will be making a pioneering tour of South Africa at the end of the month as they prepare in style for the upcoming season.

A 15-man squad will play seven matches. It hasn't come cheap however, with players contributing £4,000. **PAGE 71**



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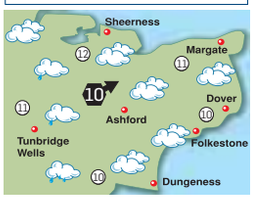
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TODAY: It is going to be overcast with patchy light rain throughout most of the day. There is going to be a gentle south-westerly wind. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	06.36	5.4	19.16	5.5
Margate	07.27	4.0	19.57	4.0
St Mary's	–	–	12.45	4.3

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	Max 10C	Min 2C
Monday	Max 11C	Min 3C
Tuesday	Max 13C	Min 4C
Wednesday	Max 13C	Min 6C
Thursday	Max 14C	Min 6C
Friday	Max 14C	Min 6C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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DUALLING

Even KCC leader is in dark over mystery donor

Continued from front page

millions, the Government can say that it can't fund a scheme, so this contribution from KCC is very important.

"The key thing is to demonstrate that dualling is linked to economic growth. This area is an economic corridor.

"The road needs to be dualled and (KCC leader) Paul Carter has shown the Government that KCC can deliver it at a reduced cost."

Cheaper delivery, help to the planning process and a potential seven-figure contribution could kick start the longed-for dualling scheme, ending years of traffic jam misery.

Problems were highlighted more than a decade ago, when the then Secretary of State for Transport admitted the need to upgrade the heavily congested section of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury, which is a single carriageway.

Improvements would also go a considerable way to easing the traffic nightmare which dogs Tunbridge Wells' North Farm Estate.

But despite getting the go-ahead from the Labour government, plans were stalled when the Coalition government slammed the brakes on spending in a bid to tackle the nation's debt crisis.

It was feared the plan would be scrapped altogether due to the expense – estimated at £117 million by the Highways Agency – but last October KCC approached ministers and offered to build the new section of dual carriageway for £70m.

Despite KCC's heavy involvement, the authority claims it is unaware of the mystery donor.

Cabinet member for highways Bryan Sweetland said: "I don't know and Paul Carter doesn't know. It's very positive and has brought a lot of interest back onto the subject, which is a good thing.

"I don't think things have changed in the last couple of weeks but we have a meeting with (transport minister) Mike Penning in April.

"It would make sense to have this as one of the schemes it will fund in 2015."

Cllr David Jukes from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council said he was unaware who the mystery donor was but said he hoped all the contributions would help push the Government to give the green light for the scheme.

BY-ELECTION

Battle lines drawn as Tories and Lib Dems prepare to fight for council seat

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE battle for the third Pembury seat on Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is back on – just a year since the Lib Dems sensationally won it from the Tories.

Claire Brown, who shocked many when she secured one of the three Pembury seats at the 2011 elections, resigned last Friday citing personal reasons.

The mum-of-three was the only candidate standing for the post last year to actually live in the village, but her victory was seen in part as a warning shot to the local ruling Conservatives who, at the time, had just undergone a leadership change and months of internal wrangles.

Her resignation is expected to reignite the fierce battle between the Lib Dems and the Conservatives for the seat.

Speaking about her decision to quit, she said: "Due to a change in personal circumstances, I no longer feel I can give the role the time and attention it deserves – or that the people of Pembury deserve.

"I've taken a difficult decision to step aside, but this will make room or give the opportunity for another person who can be fully accessible.

"I've really enjoyed meeting and working with Pembury residents and would like to thank them for the support they've shown me in my brief time as a borough councillor."



STEPPING DOWN: Claire Brown held the Pembury seat for the Liberal Democrats

The by-election is likely to take place within the next two months.

In last year's election Mrs Brown took 578 votes, the Conservative candidate Robert William 460, and Ukip's Victor Charles, 297.

Her resignation has sparked what is expected to be a fierce battle between the parties, where the Tories have since gained back confidence and also have the advantage of holding the other two Pembury seats on the council.

Chairman of the Tunbridge Wells Conservatives Cllr James Scholes said the Pembury seat had historically fluctuated between the two parties. But he admitted he was quietly confident the Tories could gain back the seat. "It's difficult to predict, but we'll be putting in a lot of work between now and then."

Lib Dem party chairman Trevor Poile said he was also feeling confident. "We won the seat off the Tories last March so I think we've got every chance of doing the same again. We'll be out canvassing to try and win the seat."

He said: "I think Claire Brown's resignation was just one of those things.

"It is a shame. It wasn't a shock to us."

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TELEVISION

Flirting Apprentice Maria says: 'I'll make Lord Sugar love me'

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

BBC'S The Apprentice is heading for our screens again, and Kent is represented by a self-confessed cunning flirt.

Maria O'Connor said she will make Lord Sugar "love me" and is happy to flirt with men to get her way... then she'll dump them forever.

The 20-year-old restaurateur is aiming high and plans to win the latest series, and will use her female charms to ensure she does.

Owner of Greek restaurant Elizavet, in Sandwich, with her mother, she said she can do "everything" in business, and even took the chance to take a swipe at her rivals saying she works in the "real world".



With Gordon Ramsay as her inspiration, she admits to being headstrong and cunning when it comes to business, and says that her persuasive charm helps her always get what she wants.

She enjoys shopping, socialising and is an adrenaline junkie.

Maria said: "There is nothing I can't do. I can do everything, absolutely everything. If you chuck me in the deep end I'll swim, I won't sink."

Maria, the youngest of the 16 contestants, added: "I turned two businesses around – made them from nothing in to a massive success. I have my own business now and I am only 20 years old. And I have a lot more to give.

"I don't believe in being given anything. I believe you have to work for everything you get, to achieve everything you want in life. Without doing it yourself, it's worthless, it's nothing.

"Most of the other candidates work in marketing, or all that sort of thing, but I have worked in the real world, you know.

"I have done it myself. I've done my other business at 19 years old, and there are not a lot of people who can turn around and say 'I own my own restaurant and bought it outright at 19'.

"I am definitely a bargain hunter. I am very cunning with it, and cheeky. And I always tend to get around people. Put a man in front of me and I will definitely get round him, no worries.

"You sit there, flirt, mess around and thank you very much, see you later, never see you again.

"With Lord Sugar, I could definitely wrap him around my finger. I could make him love me."

In past episodes, the apprentices have been in Kent – once to relaunch Margate as a tourist trap, and during another episode they visited a Kent ice-cream maker to launch new flavours.

In the new series other Apprentice candidates include a professional wrestler, a show jumper and a shark diver.



IN IT TO WIN IT: Maria O'Connor from Sandwich

Lord Sugar said: "This is not about a job anymore and I'm not looking for a friend, if I wanted a friend I'd get a dog.

"I'm looking for a partner, the 'Marks' to my 'Spencer', the 'Lennon' to my 'McCartney'. This is about me investing £250,000 into a business with one of you and I'm expecting you, as the so-called entrepreneurs, to make the money for me."

■ **The eighth series of the BBC One show starts on Wednesday, March 21.**

TRANSPORT

Fire brigade union raises concerns at new Eurotunnel safety contract

KENT'S fire brigade union has warned of job losses and problems with safety at the Channel Tunnel due to potential changes to emergency fire cover.

Eurotunnel, which operates the cross-Channel service, is in discussions with Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) and the French Fire Service (SDIS 62) over the renewal of contracts.

The two fire services have provided primary and secondary emergency cover – the first and secondary responses to an incident – for the tunnel, which runs from Folkestone to Calais, since it opened in 1994.

A spokesman for the Fire Brigade Union, Jim Parrott, said Eurotunnel was looking to bring in a private contractor to take over the primary cover, currently carried out by specialist teams from KFRS and SDIS 62. Secondary cover, also provided by the English and French fire crews who are located in towns either end of the tunnel, involves putting out fires.

Mr Parrott said: "Cover is paid for by Eurotunnel and it's done under contract. It's been out of contract for 18 months."

He said problems on the French side with the cost of indemnity had meant primary cover could be taken over by a private company and the subsequent loss of jobs in the French and English fire crews.

"We don't think provision from a private company can provide satisfactory cover. It's a specialist role with specialist resources and equipment – they deal with very dangerous situations," said Mr Parrott. "KFRS would not want to provide secondary cover if there was a private company doing primary."

Asked whether the changes could impact safety, he said: "Eurotunnel said there would only be one incident in 50 years, but there have been four in 12 years. It would have a massive impact on safety."

But Eurotunnel spokesman John Keefe denied there would be any problems, saying it was likely the same teams would provide the cover, just under a different contract.

He also vehemently denied there would be any threat to the safety of passengers.

"There is no risk to safety and it's likely to be exactly the same people providing the cover. All emergency services would remain exactly as they are; there would be no difference."

Director of operational policy and resilience at KFRS Steve Demetriou said KFRS and Eurotunnel must give two years' notice to end the contract and are currently in active discussions to renew it with hope of reaching an agreement in the coming months. "The French fire service has also been discussing contract renewal with Eurotunnel," he said. "KFRS firefighters have developed excellent bi-national working arrangements with their SDIS colleagues over 20 years and hope to maintain these in the future."

NEWS IN BRIEF

David Tennant preview

A SPECIAL free preview of the new David Tennant TV drama is being held at Turner Contemporary in Margate. True Love episode one and an introduction from the director Dominic Savage will be on Thursday, March 29, at the gallery from 6.30-7.30pm. Tickets are free, but booking is essential - call 01843 233020 or email cbarker@turnercontemporary.org to reserve a place. The serial was shot in Margate and also stars Billie Piper, Jane Horrocks, Ashley Walters and David Morrissey.

Head vacancy worries

ALMOST 50 schools in Kent are without their own headteacher.

A Kent County Council report reveals 49 of 597 schools either have an acting head or an executive headteacher, who runs several schools.

Some schools have advertised three times to fill a vacancy, and teaching unions said the problem was most accute in primary schools. KCC pointed to national recruitment problems and said it was looking at how it could support headteachers.

High-tech treasure hunt

TREASURE hunters are expected to descend on Dover this summer after it was announced as one of 32 locations where a hoard of treasure has been hidden. Coast magazine, with help from National Trust and sat nav firm Garmin, has stashed 'geocache' at sites along the UK coastline and holidaymakers are invited to seek them out using GPS technology. Treasure hunters make a note of a keyword inside the cache and could potentially win bounty worth more than £3,000. For information go to www.coastmagazine.co.uk/treasurehunt.

County Square Baby & Toddler Photo Competition

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DROUGHT

Water companies warn hosepipe ban may last throughout the summer

By Ed Hill
ed.hill@archant.co.uk

HOUSEHOLDS across the county will have to live with a hosepipe ban until at the least the end of the summer.

The water companies' restrictions to be introduced on April 5 will mainly target domestic users. Customers will be prevented from using hosepipes for watering gardens, washing cars, patios and boats, and from filling swimming and paddling pools, ponds, and fountains.

Anyone caught breaking the ban faces a £1,000 fine.

The five companies that supply the county are imposing the ban on the same day. Southern Water, South East Water, Veolia Water South East, Thames Water, and Sutton and East Surrey Water, say they are introducing the bans after the area became a drought zone last month.

The measures come after two of the driest winters on record. Experts say only heavy non-stop rain for weeks will ease the problem.

Veolia Water South East head of operations Gavin McHale said the ban was an essential move to conserve and help ensure a secure supply during what could be a continuing and severe drought.

He said: "In the Folkestone and Dover area we have no surface water from rivers or reservoirs to draw on, and we rely on boreholes which take water from chalk and gravel aquifers. These natural aquifers need to be recharged each year during the autumn, winter and spring.

"Forecasts show the drought is likely to continue so we need to move quickly to conserve our limited water resources."

South East water says two of it key reservoirs at Ardingly in West Sussex and Bewl Reservoir in Lamberhurst, which it shares with Southern Water, are still below 50 per cent capacity.

The companies are urging all their customers to use water more wisely and local authorities have to develop plans to make plants in parks and gardens more resilient to drought.

A spokesman for Swale Borough Council said: "We have massively reduced our reliance on watering over recent years, cutting back on bedding and replacing with more sustainable planting such as shrubs, bulbs and herbacious plants.

"We do not have hanging baskets and have a limited number of troughs and planters."

A garden sprinkler uses more than 1,000 litres of water an hour, enough to supply six people for a whole day.

Howard Davidson, Environment Agency South East regional director, said: "We will be watching to ensure water companies follow their drought plans, and expect them to demonstrate they are doing everything possible to reduce water demand including stepping up their publicity campaigns."

> **Forecasts show the drought is likely to continue so we need to move quickly to conserve limited water resources**
> **GAVIN McHALE,** VEOLIA WATER

The ban has been crticised by environmental groups and unions who say it is a sign of lack of long-term planning in the water industry.

Graham Warren, of Protect Kent, said: "CPRE have consistently campaigned for a new wide-ranging water resource management strategy for the South East, incorporating sources of supply with the capacity to sustain Kent and the region as a whole under drought conditions, which records suggest to be of increasing frequency and duration."

LEISURE

My Kent Big Weekend attractions prepare for thousands of sightseers

MAKING the weekend a family's big event is always fun, and this will be one of the biggest thanks to a massive giveaway of free tickets to some of Kent's best-loved attractions.

Thousands will be heading for our iconic castles and cathedrals, plus a few hidden tourism treasures across the county.

They are opening their doors on Saturday and Sunday for the My Kent Big Weekend celebrations.

People received free tickets in the event's ballot organised by Visit Kent to mark the climax of English Tourism Week.

But don't despair if you have missed out on the freebies. Visit Kent said it is encouraging everyone to join in the fun and head out to one of the participating attractions over the weekend.

An astonishing 123 county attractions are taking part.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive at Visit Kent, said: "My Kent Big Weekend attractions work hard to make sure everyone has a really special day out.

"So even if you have not been lucky enough to receive free tickets you can be assured of a very warm welcome and lots of entertainment.

"Plus, everyone visiting participating attractions over the weekend are invited to enter our great My Kent Big Weekend photographic competition.

"Take pictures of your family and friends having a great time, or an image of your attractions that would really encourage others to visit.

"All the entries will be judged by a professional photographer and there are fantastic prizes on offer this year including two English Heritage memberships for a year for two people, and special free passes to a host of top visitor attractions across the county."

To enter go to www.mykent.co.uk and log in. Search for the attraction under 'places' and then click 'upload photo'.

If the attraction isn't listed under 'places', make a new 'discovery' and upload the photo there.



DRY SPELL: Breaking ban could cost you £1,000

NEWS IN BRIEF

Channel diver rescue

A DARING rescue took place in the English Channel 15 miles off the coast of Dover on Wednesday after a diver found himself stranded in the shipping lane. The diver had surfaced from his dive but been carried away by the tide. Two lifeboats and an RAF helicopter were called to help. At 4.35pm Walmer Lifeboat found the diver, and rescued him from the water. After arriving in Dover the diver was checked over by paramedics but did not need hospital treatment.

Media firm chief dies

THE president of the KM Group, Edwin Boorman, has died aged 76. He had been taken ill before Christmas and "passed away peacefully" on Wednesday night, the company said.

Mr Boorman had previously served as managing director, chief executive and chairman of the Kent newspaper and media company.

He was a former president of the Newspaper Society, and in 2002 was awarded an OBE for services to the Royal British Legion in Kent.

Sir Roger's palace date

THANET North MP Sir Roger Gale received his knighthood at Buckingham Palace this week.

The Tory MP was first elected to represent Margate, Herne Bay and towns and villages in the north of Thanet in 1983.

He was joined at the ceremony by his wife Lady Suzy Gale. Sir Roger is passionate about animal welfare and was previously vice-chairman of the Conservative Party.

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CAMPAIGN

This TWITA message is aiming to improve child road safety record

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE name will sound familiar to most people, but this TWITA is a road safety campaign aimed at slashing the death toll on Tunbridge Wells roads.

It stands for Tunbridge Wells is Traffic Aware and was launched after figures from last year saw a rise in child casualties.

The council said it firmly believes just one accident is one too many, and is now determined to drive the message home.

The town hall said it is concerned about the dangers posed by traffic in the borough and in particular the dangers to children.

Cllr Caroline Derrick is the chairwoman TWITA, and she said: "In 2009, a fatal car crash on North Farm Industrial Estate involving young adults depressed me even though I didn't know any of the victims.

"It seems to me that in recent years I have read about so many young lives being cut short by something that can so easily be avoided.

"When I became a borough councillor last year I met Emma Pell, the council's parking manager who was also concerned about the high number of traffic incidents in our borough, and who also wanted to do something positive about this issue.

"We started to work together on road safety in September, 2011, and we managed to bring on board a number of partners straight away."

Several shows were staged and were well received, plus getting the message over cost around £1 per child.

She said: "The children and adults who attended showed there was great enthusiasm for continuing to promote the message and to broaden the audience, reaching out to other age groups.

"With our launch of TWITA we are planning to reduce road casualties in our borough – and that can only be positive for everyone."

Conservative MP for Tunbridge Wells, Greg Clark added: "Tunbridge Wells has a problem with traffic and road safety and we need to work together to address it.

"Dualling the A21 is a top priority which should help to reduce the number of accidents both on the road and in the traffic displaced to other roads.

"While we are campaigning for the A21 to be dualled, I believe we should be taking any action to improve the situation here and now, including reducing the speed limit outside schools, providing pedestrian crossings and improving safety at accident black spots.

"I look forward to working with Cllr Caroline Derrick on her characteristically constructive campaign."

■ **Find all the very latest news and sport to read at www.yourtunbridgewells.co.uk.**



SUPPORTER: Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark

CRIME

Drugs crackdown ends with 12 people arrested

A WEEK-long drugs crackdown in Maidstone has resulted in 12 people being arrested.

The operation was designed to target and disrupt the use and supply of controlled substances across the district. Officers carried out foot patrols and stopped and searched those suspected of offences.

A number of warrants were also carried out at addresses where it was believed illegal substances were being used.

Two of those arrested have already been charged and are awaiting court appearances, and 10 suspects remain on police bail.

SPORT

Gay football team to hold fundraising event

KENT'S only gay-friendly football team, Bexley Invicta FC, are holding a fundraising dinner on March 31 at the Holiday Inn, Bexley.

The event is being supported by the Football Association, Kent County Football Association, Millwall FC, Gillingham FC, and the Justin Campaign.

Raffle prizes will include a Wembley Stadium tour, Millwall and Gillingham football club goodies, case of wine, and several nights and weekends away.

The dinner costs £30 per ticket, and are available at www.bexleyinvictafc.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Fans' support (and money) helping Tom Williams & the Boat make big noise on the UK's rock music scene

By Ed Hill
ed.hill@archant.co.uk



SOUNDING GOOD: Tom Williams & the Boat's music has seen them compared to bands such as Radiohead and the White Stripes with their music also being played on BBC Radio 6

A TUNBRIDGE Wells band is making a big splash on the music scene, and their new album will be good news for Kent Air Ambulance.

Tom Williams & the Boat will be releasing their new single Teenage Blood in April.

The band started in 2007, with friends Tom had met on the town's music scene.

He said: "I started playing solo in 2006, at the Grey Lady and Forum. I was part of about 30 people who used to play there every month.

"I wanted to get a group together and I wanted to use some of the people I had met there."

The band began by releasing EPs in small numbers which soon began to attract the attention of BBC DJs Steve Lamacq and Huw Stephens.

The six-piece were described as part of the 'anti-folk' scene, although the frontman is keen to point out this is just a small part of their music.

He said: "The folk aspect really only comes down to the fact I am a massive fan of narrative songwriting.

"It's more like Bruce Springsteen folk. We are a big six-piece band. It's not naval-gazing kind of folk, it is a classic rock sound really."

The group have been compared to Radiohead, Frank Turner, and the White Stripes, along with Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and have played at the Glastonbury and Latitude festivals.

They recently signed with the Moshi Moshi management company, who are behind chart-toppers Florence and the Machine.

The next Tom Williams & the Boat album has been funded with the help of their fans through the website PledgeMusic.

Tom, 25, said: "It made sense for us because we have been self-supporting in our career. We have always been in touch with are fans on social media and it seemed a good idea.

"They have pre-ordered the record without hearing a note. We offer various prizes such as getting some of the artwork or meeting me and writing a song together.

"We have had a remarkable number of pledges at about £30, which is amazing in a time when people can download a track for free."

The band have also signed up a deal to donate some of the profits from record sales to Kent Air Ambulance.

Tom said: "The air ambulance is close to my heart. My sister has a heart condition and she blacked out on several occasions when she was a child.

"The number of times it saved her life is amazing, and they are not government funded. We will be playing a concert for them soon."

And the band's career is going from strength to strength. Their track Teenage Blood has been put on the BBC 6 playlist, and been record of the week on XFM.

Tom said: "Being outside of London it can sometimes feel like we are in a bit of a vacuum, but we have always been in touch with our fans who are a real community.

"We gave up on London and trying to be trendy and just let us be ourselves and in a way that is when things have started really coming together."

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MEET THE TEAM: Edward Bankes and Bibek Mukherjee are the Kent half of the Pembroke College side

TELEVISION

Students battle it out in the grand final of University Challenge

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO Kent students have made to the finals of one of television's oldest quiz shows – University Challenge.

Looking to get plenty of starters for 10 will be Edward Bankes, from Sevenoaks, who is in his second year studying English, and the team captain, Bibek Mukherjee, from Whitstable.

Edward, 20, is still at Pembroke College, which is part of the world famous Cambridge University and Bibek, 22, graduated from his economics course last June.

With their London team mates, Imogen Gold, a second year engineering student, and Ben Pugh, who is currently on a year abroad for his course in Russian and German, they hope to trounce their Manchester opposition.

Filmed some months ago, even senior members of staff at Pembroke don't know the result, which is a closely kept secret until the television screening on Monday.

Making it to the final meant Pembroke had to beat University College London in the semis; Clare College, Cambridge in the quarters; University of Nottingham in the second round; and St Anne's College, Oxford, in the first.

The Manchester team is made up of Luke Kelly, studying history, Michael McKenna, studying biochemistry, Paul Joyce, doing a masters in social research methods and statistics, and their captain Tristan Burke, who is studying English literature.

Pembroke bursar Chris Blencowe said: "We will all be glued to the television to see how well they do. It will be fingers crossed for all of us. We don't know the result, but are really proud of what they have achieved.

"This programme is the pinnacle of television quizzes and rivals even Mastermind.

"It would be wonderful if they have won, but it is an immense achievement for them to have got this far."

Pembroke College, founded in 1347 by Marie de St Pol, Countess of Pembroke, is the third oldest of the Cambridge colleges and the first to have its own chapel.

The show has been a cornerstone of British television since it first aired in 1962. The format has changed little over the decades and was originally based on an American programme called College Bowl, which ran between 1959 and 1970.

The show here made a star of Bamber Gascoigne. It is now presented by acid-tongued Newsnight anchor, Jeremy Paxman.

As 2012 is the programme's 50th birthday year, the Duchess of Cornwall will present the trophy to the winning team at Clarence House.

See the final on BBC Two on Monday at 8pm.

TOURISM

30 per cent don't know cathedral is in Kent

A SHOCKING 30 per cent of adults do not know Canterbury Cathedral is in Kent, according to a survey. Some 2,000 Britons were questioned in the survey for travel firm Journeys of Distinction. Visit Kent chief Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "It is hard to believe some of the claims in this survey. However, Kent is a big county and none of us who live here can always keep up with all the latest additions to our many attractions."

ANIMAL EXPORTS

RSPCA chief in town over animals exports

RSPCA chief executive Gavin Grant will meet with council chiefs in Thanet next week to discuss the on-going saga of live animal exports from Ramsgate. Mr Grant will hold talks with councillors and protestors during a visit on Thursday, March 22. On the agenda will be how the live animal export trade from Ramsgate can be reduced or stopped altogether. The trade has operated from Ramsgate since May, 2011.

FOOD

Salad importer to pay more than £7,000 for supplying rotting food

BRITAIN'S largest salad importer has defended its "integrity" after being fined for supplying rotten cucumbers and tomatoes.

It was fined £2,700 after marketing two separate consignments of Spanish tomatoes and cucumbers which were deemed unfit for human consumption.

At Birmingham magistrates' court, Fortuna Frutos (UK) Limited, admitted two separate breaches of EC marketing standards for fresh horticultural produce.

The charges involved delivering and marketing two regulated consignments of Spanish tomatoes and cucumbers inspected by the Horticultural Marketing Inspectorate, which is part of the Rural Payments Agency, at Birmingham wholesale market in June last year.

They found the food did not meet the minimum marketable standards allowed. The inspectors calculated 24 per cent of the Paddock Wood company's tomatoes were rotting with visible mould deposits, and 72 per cent of the cucumbers had wet rots.

Boss Jose Hernandez-Morales told Archant KOS Media: "We have a lot of integrity as a company as well as a high level of responsibility and service. Therefore, I'd rather not comment on this in view of the fact that the final result is not going to change now."

The company was fined £1,350 for each offence and told to pay prosecution and investigation costs of £4,733. Fortuna imported more than 1.367 million boxes of Spanish tomatoes into the UK in 2011, supplying supermarket contracts and wholesale markets nationwide.



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TOURISM

Exhibitors and visitors praise success of Travel and Leisure Show 2012

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

LOCAL, regional, national and international attractions and travel were all highlighted at this year's highly successful Travel and Leisure Show, held at the Dover Cruise Terminal.

Attractions, stately homes, castles, gardens and historic monument were all represented along with cruise companies, hotels and leisure activities.

From nearby White Cliffs Country to the Galapagos Islands, the two-day show, organised by KOS Archant Media offered everything for the day tripper through to those searching for the exotic holiday of a lifetime.

Organiser Liz Hare said: "It was very well attended, especially on the second day. We saw a great mix of exhibitors and companies from all aspects of the business, from the historic houses of south east England through to the towns of northern France and Belgium, and the cruise companies whose ships navigate the world."

Saturday's event focused on group travel, with Sunday orientated towards families.

Both exhibitors and visitors were full of praise for the event, now in its fifth year.

"The show was a great success for us and one of the most successful we have done. It never ceases to amaze us how well organised the show is, not just for the visitors, but for the exhibitors too. I can't wait to book next year's event," said Roy and Margaret Jones, of GoCruise.

"We found it very useful indeed. Loved the free wi-fi which worked very well", said Jane Ellis, of Hastings and 1066 Country.

One of the features of the event was contributions from the Continent, which included the France Zone featuring history, heritage and culinary delights – which other country's tourist boards say they want to emulate in future.

Paddy Earp, of Salient Tours, Ypres in Belgium, said: "I want to say how much I enjoyed the brilliant show. It was really useful and I have suggested to Salient Tours they get together with some other Ypres attractions and take a bigger stand together next year, like the French did."

Smaller attractions also found the event extremely helpful.

Stephanie Hayman, of the Astor Community Theatre, Deal, said: "I thought it went very well and was certainly worthwhile. The Little Gem positions are excellent value for money and do make it possible for smaller, but interesting, businesses and arts organisations to participate. I'm sure that adds to the value for the visiting public."

"A great day all round," was the final verdict of John Ruler, award-winning travel writer.

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



SHOWSTOPPER: Exhibitors from around the world displayed at the show held at Dover Cruise Terminal

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News

NIGHTLIFE

University profs to reveal naked truth of lap dancing

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE unusual question of how safe people feel knowing there is a lap dancing club nearby is the subject of a £117,000 academic study – and Maidstone is taking a seat in the front row.

Researchers want to know if residents feel threatened knowing there is somewhere in the town where women are taking off their clothes and gyrating in front of paying customers.

The University of Kent, which is behind the study, said it was providing the first evidence of how the sexualisation of nightlife may be creating discomfort among social groups.



The team intends to explore the impact of lap dancing clubs, this will help council licensing officers and community safety groups make decisions on the suitability of the clubs in their communities.

It will take them at least a year to fully research the clubs around the UK, including the county town of Maidstone.

Professor Phil Hubbard is from the university's school of social policy, sociology and social research. He is working with Dr Rachela Colosi, of the University of Lincoln, on the project, which is funded via a £117,839 grant from the Economic and Social Research Council, Britain's largest organisation for funding research on economic and social issues.

Prof Hubbard has previously researched the regulation of prostitution and sex work and is regarded as an expert in the field.

He said: "Clubs offering sexual entertainment have become increasingly widespread over the last decade. This will be the first study of the ways in which the sexualisation of nightlife creates feelings of discomfort among particular social groups.

"While recent changes in licensing laws mean councils have the power to respond to local concerns about lap dancing clubs, there remain many misconceptions about the clientele of such venues and their affect on communities. No one has explored the impact lap dancing clubs have on the nightlife of our cities and this research will help those responsible for issuing licenses make better informed decisions."

This latest study will be called Sexualisation, nuisance and safety: sexual entertainment venues and the management of risk.

It will culminate in a workshop for licensing officers and community safety groups attended by leading licensing solicitors Philip Kolvin QC and Leo Charalambides QC.

To take part in the Maidstone study go to www.survey.kent.ac.uk/nightlife.

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HOUSING

Gypsy pitches could be allocated on 'council housing' points system

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A POINTS system for assessing people's suitability of new traveller sites could be introduced – but it has been rejected by gypsy leaders.

Kent County Council wants to bring in the controversial method which is similar to the way people are considered for social housing.

The Gypsy Council said the move will do nothing to address the issue of a shortage of sites, but KCC argue the new set of rules will be transparent, leading to fewer appeals and cutting legal costs.

Bill Forester, head of KCC's gypsy and traveller unit, said: "We're trying to make the system as similar as it can be to the one for social housing, but obviously it needs to cater for the particular needs of the gypsy and traveller community.

"We do need more pitches. We are going to have 18 more on the new Coldharbour site where building will start in May; Maidstone have got 15 agreed for funding and are doing a consultation; and we are making a further bid for Homes and Communities Agency who provide the funding, for a site in Swale.

"If all those come good, and we are pretty confident that at least three will, then we would actually have nearly 25 per cent more pitches than at present."

The points would be allocated using a number of parameters, including issues like current accommodation, the lack of facilities and legal places to live, plus any applicable health and care issues.

Swale-based Joe Jones is the co-chairman of the Gypsy Council. He said he is concerned about what he sees as a lack of commitment in getting more sites up and running.

He said: "There haven't been any new sites built since the 1990s. And now there are not enough sites within Kent for gypsy travellers.

"We need those new sites before they start thinking about points systems. There is an underlying pressure for more suitable accommodation.

"The Ashford site has been extended with a couple of trailer sites, but that was the very first site to be built in the 60s.

"So how many children since the 60s have been born on that site and had to go in to housing. It is cheaper to build a gypsy site than it is to build houses. Now there are gypsys in houses that want to go on a site with their family.

"If they did that, the councils could release housing stock and they could be used by the people who actually want a house."

Meanwhile, in Maidstone, the council appears to be tackling the very problem the Gypsy Council is concerned about.

Maidstone Borough Council is contacting landowners, agents and public bodies to come up with a list of possible new sites.

The authority is working with Town and Country Housing Group after the organisation was handed £1.3 million by the Homes and Communities Agency as a grant. The agency said the money will help them come up with 15 public pitches within three years.

Maidstone council said the sites it wants to hear about must be at least half a hectare, have access to a suitable road, be level ground, and have a named landowner willing to sell.

Mr Jones said Swale has also done something similar, but the sites found were not for sale.

He said: "Until the councillors and MPs understand us, they will always be our main problem. They use us as cannon fodder for their own political gains."

Submitted sites will be assessed against a range of planning criteria to determine if there are any which could be suitable for this purpose.



STOPOVER: New sites are planned for the county

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News

FIRE

Teen praised for saving OAP from raging blaze

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A PAPER boy who saved a pensioner's life when he spotted the man's house was on fire has been praised by his family and the emergency services.

Ray Attwood, 78, was woken from his sleep by a smoke alarm just after 7am last Wednesday, discovering a fire in his ground-floor bedroom. It's suspected the cause was a faulty oil-fired storage heater.

But luckily Jack Randall, 14, pictured, was on his paper round in London Road, Dunton Green, at that time and realised something was wrong.

As he approached the property to deliver Mr Attwood's paper he was met by an open door. Jack saw the house was full of smoke and realised there was a fire inside.

The teenager made his way inside to help Mr Attwood, who had been trying to tackle the fire himself.

He entered the smoke-logged room and after trying to clear the smoke, with the help of a neighbour, they took Mr Attwood to safety.



Firefighters arrived soon after to ensured the fire was out.

Mr Attwood, who has mobility issues, was given oxygen before being taken to hospital with smoke inhalation. Jack was uninjured and continued with his paper round.

When he got home Jack told his family: "The most unusual thing has just happened."

His father Michael said: "And that was that, he just walked off. When we asked and he told us, we had to tell him 'Jack, that is a really big thing'.

"I am just immensely proud of him. It's the kind of lad he is, he is very thoughtful and he always has and always will do the right thing no matter what situation presents itself."

The proud father said he knows the Attwood family on nodding terms and is delighted his son, who attends Knole Academy, Sevenoaks, was able to be the hero.

Jack said: "I didn't think it was a big deal. I saw him in the house asking for help, so I went in.

"Then the fire brigade arrived, so I just finished my paper round."

His father added: "I didn't realise the extent of what he did until we got a call from the fire service to say he'd helped save this chap's life. It's great he acted so fast and knew what to do."

Watch manager Danny Barrett said: "This man is extremely lucky to have survived. Without the smoke alarm and the brave actions of Jack and the neighbour, who helped get him out, it is likely this fire would have been fatal.

"While I would praise Jack's efforts, our advice is to never attempt to put a fire out yourself – call the fire service."

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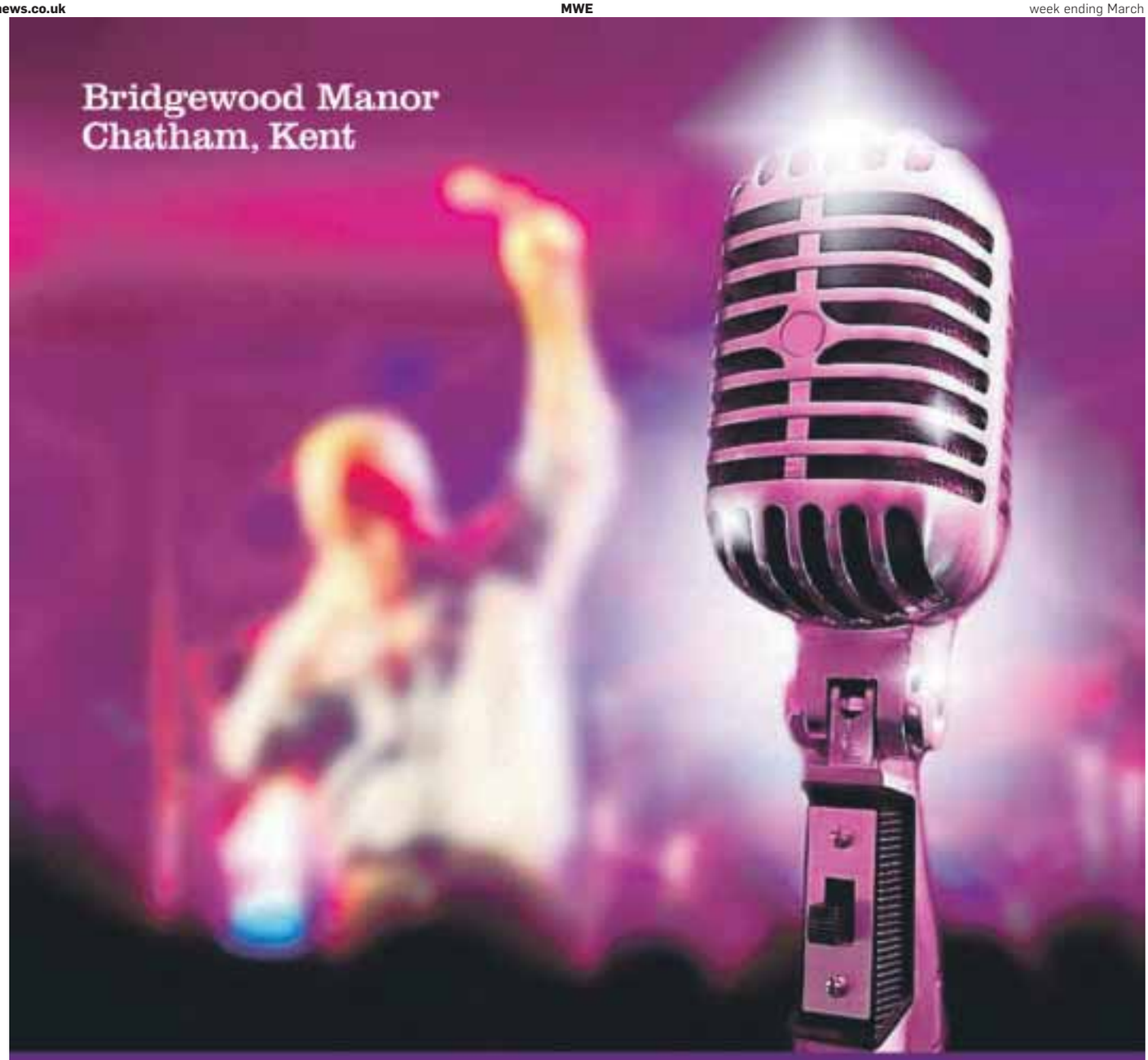
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News

RELATIONSHIPS

Website launched for when Mother's Day is not all roses

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT'S Mother's Day this weekend, but what about all those people who simply hate their mothers and dread this time of year?

Well, one Kent mum has come up with a partial solution – go to her website and vent your anger.

Nicki Chisnall, from Ashford, said there is a dark side to Mothering Sunday and claims many people loathe the sentimental approach card manufactures and retailers take this time of year.



She said: "This particular day should be a national celebration of our love for our mothers, but for many it really is not like that.

"Of course, there are lots that adore their mothers and have a great relationship, and that's fair enough. My website is not aimed at these people and I am happy for them.

"The ones I am aiming at are those who don't have a cuddly, fluffy relationship with their mothers. In fact it's a nightmare, and they dread Mother's Day every year. It can be the same for birthdays and Christmas but, of course, Mother's Day is aimed directly at mums."

She added: "It can be a very difficult time for many people. They are dealing with the death of a beloved parent, or maybe mother has mental health problems or perhaps drug and alcohol issues. For any number of reasons she might not be around and cannot be the type of mother you see in the greetings cards."

On her forum, which is starting to gather comments, one person wrote: "I absolutely hate Mother's Day. I spent all day crying last year".

And another wrote: "I love you mummy, you're the greatest. Well it just ain't true. She's a bitch and I've got no time for her after what she did. Sorry to rant, but I'm sick of this sentimental crap rammed down my throat."

Her website is called What Shall I Do About Mother? and offers help and support for anyone suffering from mother issues.

Ms Chisnall said there are opportunities to share readers' own story anonymously and there is feedback and support from the online community.

The 38-year-old, said: "Sometimes families do go off the rails, and we are there to pick these people up. This site will have plenty of people who have gone through the same things and that in itself can be a comfort knowing you are not the only one. I will certainly make every effort to not make the same mistakes with my young son and daughter."

For more information visit whatshallidoaboutmother.co.uk

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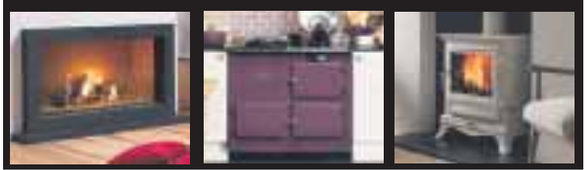
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News

COMPETITION

Win a 'qualiteee' evening out with top comic Lee Nelson

LEE Nelson, the star of BBC Three's smash hit comedy series Lee Nelson's Well Good Show, is bringing his stand-up show to the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells on Friday, April 6 – and we have five pairs of tickets to give away.

Lee Nelson Live follows the success of his sell-out debut UK tour, Lee Nelson's Well Good Tour. The new show sees the funnyman travelling the country with his best mate and 'fat legend' Omelette in tow.

Lee Nelson's Well Good Show has been a ratings hit for BBC Three across both series, winning consolidated viewing figures up to two million per episode and reaching as high as number two in the BBC iPlayer chart for most-watched show across all BBC channels. The DVD of the first series is available to buy now and includes more than 80 minutes of brand new DVD extras.

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets, just answer this simple question:

■ **Where in Kent will Lee Nelson be performing on Friday, April 6?**

a) Tunbridge Wells

b) Dartford

c) Gravesend

To enter text KOS followed by NELSON and your answer then your first name, surname address and postcode to 80058, e.g. KOS NELSON C JOHN SMITH 2 THE STREET, TOWN, DV2 2GT. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate. Winners will be selected from all correct entries. The promoter's decision is final. Usual terms and conditions apply.

Please note if you should enter after the closing deadline of March 27, 2012, your entry will not valid, but you still may be charged. SMS services are provided by Velti DR Ltd, Se1 8ND, telephone 020 7633 5020.

Alternatively enter by post to Lee Nelson Competition, Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS.

If you aren't one of our lucky winners, don't worry you can buy tickets from the box office on 01892 530613/ 532072, or go to www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.

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KENT **REMEMBERED**



PUZZLE: Sherlock Holmes has to solve the mysterious death of a naked tramp found at Scotney Castle

Scotney Castle death Sherlock's latest case

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

HISTORIC Scotney Castle is the latest site to benefit from the renewal of interest in all things Sherlock Holmes.

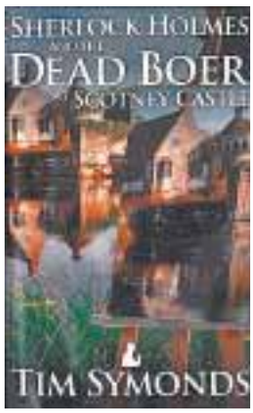
Following BBC One's hit series which brings the great detective and his assistant Dr John Watson into the 21st century, and Robert Downey Jnr and Jude Law's all-action big screen take on the duo, they are now back on the printed page in a new adventure.

Tim Symonds' novel Sherlock Holmes and the Dead Boer at Scotney Castle has just been published by MX Publishing.

Set in 1904, the book sees Holmes and Watson take the train to The Weald to address the mysterious Kipling League at a manor house called Crick's End. Then a body is found – apparently a tramp who drowned while washing – at nearby Scotney Castle in Tunbridge Wells.

But what is the significance of the body being found in a shallow pond and not the moat? And why was the victim stripped? And why, on the corpse, are there no slashes or bruises or any signs of injury?

All these questions are answered in the book, which has a slightly unusual take on the original stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in that Holmes and Watson have a major disagreement, in fact several, throughout the book.



ELEMENTARY: Tim Symonds has penned new Holmes novel

Scotney Castle is an ideal setting for a story of murder, mystery and intrigue. It has a ghost, dinosaur remains and was once the hiding place of a renegade priest.

Nobleman Roger Ashburnham is credited with building it in around 1378-80 when wealthy families needed protection against possible French invasion. It was originally constructed as a roughly rectangular fortified house with towers in each corner.

In 1580, the south wing was rebuilt in Elizabethan architecture style, and in around 1630 the eastern range was rebuilt in Inigo Jones style.

The Elizabethan wing remained a bailiff's residence until 1905, but the eastern range was partly dismantled on the completion of the new house in 1843, leaving the ruin as a garden feature.

Catholic owner Thomas Darrell hid Jesuit Father Richard Blount in the castle while he aided persecuted Roman Catholics from 1591 to 1598.

Catholicism was then illegal in England and during a second raid by authorities to arrest the Father he fled over a wall into the moat and escaped.

Another Darrell, Arthur, was known as a smuggler and is believed to have killed a customs man. His ghost is said to rise from the castle moat and hammer futilely on the door.

In 1778, Edward Hussey bought the estate and his grandson, also Edward, built a 'new' castle to the designs of Anthony Salvin, from sandstone quarried from the slope below. The hollow created was developed into a Quarry Garden and contains a 100-million-year-old impression of a dinosaur's footprint.

In 1970, the estate was left to the National Trust. Now it is a popular tourist attraction, not least because of its fine gardens.

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KENT EVENTS

OPINION

Sustaining the future of work

Spokesman for Kent Green Party **Steve Dawe** explains how using green energy and conservation techniques can help fill the jobs gap

THE closure of Kingsnorth power station is to be welcomed as, like all coal-fired power stations, it is a major source of pollution, specifically carbon dioxide, adding to global warming.

But where are the future jobs in Medway and surrounding areas to come from?

The cheapest single energy policy is energy conservation.

We can do everything with energy sources that we do now, and use considerably less energy. Why? Because our buildings are not properly insulated.

If every home, school and business is insulated over the next couple of decades, considerable employment will be created.

Also, every building can play a role in the production of energy. Solar water heating and solar panels can and do cut energy bills. In fact, a reduction of up to 60 per cent in energy use is possible in the UK.

What type of non-polluting, efficient and up-to-date energy production do we need in future as old polluting technologies are phased out?

The UK has the best wind regime in Europe and it is not surprising that wind turbines are adding more electricity to the national grid today than any of the other new energy installations.

Solar panels, solar water heating, ground source heat pumps and combined heat and power boilers are all examples of renewable energy technologies which may be added to our buildings to cut energy bills.

Since we import about 90 per cent of the wood and wood products we use in this country we have good reason to plant more trees. This will help our construction industry, improve biodiversity and support declining bird species.

Kent's landscape can also support fast-growing species like willow, coppicing them for use as biomass.

This can be used in existing coal-fired power stations as a sustainable alternative to coal and is already happening at the immense Drax power station. The employment potential of a larger forestry industry will be significant for Kent.

But obstacles stand in the way of a zero carbon energy system for the UK.

Supporters of old, inefficient and polluting energy technologies like coal, gas and nuclear are resisting both energy efficiency and renewables as much as they can.

This is against the national interest because it pushes up energy imports and maintains pollution.

Our greenhouse gas emissions are still growing.

Our energy bills are rising due to a lack of price controls and a very poor commitment within the energy industry to either efficiency or renewable energy.



If every home, school and business is insulated over the next couple of decades, many jobs will be created

And fuel poverty will soon afflict six million households in this country unless radical steps are taken.

If this is not done, we face higher energy bills, more deaths each year from the cold, more pollution and the immense long-term costs of nuclear waste storage which make nuclear power the most expensive energy technology ever devised.

We do not have to do this.

At my home, we have cut our energy bills with loft and interior wall insulation, and by adding solar water heating which cuts our gas bill.

Later this year, we will add solar panels to cut our electricity bill.

We need our councils and our government to take the same approach to all our buildings, for the sake of all of us, and future generations.

KOS COMMENT

Public and water firms have to play their part

WITH all five water companies in Kent imposing a hosepipe ban in April we will all have to get used to being extra careful with our water.

It is easy to turn on a tap and assume water will always be there. It might even be fun trying out some of the ingenious ways people come up with saving water, like reusing water pumped out by the washing machine to water the garden.

However, water bills have consistently increased in recent years, so what is all that extra money being used for? The water companies need to speed up their installation of meters, continue to clampdown on leaks and invest in long term solutions to water shortages. Climate change means things are not going to get any better.

Happy Mother's Day

THIS weekend's Mother's Day has its origins in ancient Greece, although the modern incarnation has mainly come from America. Whatever the rights and wrongs of marketing chocolates and cards at dutiful children it's hard to begrudge a celebration of the bond between mother and child.



Feedback

Letters/emails/texts



Disused railway station at Folkestone by Ian Norton

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Tax dodging is a cost to us all

WHEN the Budget is revealed on March 21, we will be asked to make sacrifices in order to deal with our economic woes.

At the same time, many multinational companies continue to avoid billions in taxes every year.

In spite of tough talk on cracking down on tax dodging the Government is planning on opening a new tax loophole, which will make it easier for multinationals to avoid paying their bills around the world.

ActionAid estimates that developing countries could lose £4 billion, money urgently needed to fight poverty, while the Treasury's own figures show the UK will lose £1bn a year.

When companies dodge taxes it is ordinary people who pick up the bill.

When these changes are debated in Parliament, I'm calling on our MPs to make sure the Government urgently rethinks its plans.

J Gronow, Canterbury

Give us vote on gay marriage

THE debate about gay marriage is going to blow up in our faces. This is because Mr Cameron has joined the ranks of those who want to undermine our precious British culture, already under threat.

He may – unwittingly or purposely – destroy it.

I am not at all bigoted about homosexuality – I am very much in the centre of the political spectrum.

I always realised I could easily have been gay myself. Then, if that were the case, how would I feel about it?

That is conjecture.

So I ask your readers a key question: "If your son or daughter were gay, would you love them just the same?"

I would. No doubt you would, too. So there is your answer as to how to treat homosexuals; treat them as others, love them as your neighbours.

But marriage is the union of one man and one woman for the procreation of children. Any other definition is an aberration.

I suspect this issue will become the most divisive ever dreamed up by a politician in modern Britain. And Mr Cameron will have the doubtful honour – really the shame – of thinking it a good idea and so promoting it.

Only a referendum can resolve it properly.

Geoffrey Clark, secretary, Ukip Gravesham branch, Meopham

Airport fight begins again

IN 2003 we fought off plans to build an airport at Cliffe. Now it looks like we have to do it all over again.

This time it could be Grain Hoo or really anywhere in the Thames Estuary.

Will the Government just stop worrying folks in this area again? Prime Minister David Cameron made a statement last year that there would be no new airport in this area. So what happened? How can we trust the government at all?

We do not need a new airport – just make the most of the ones we have.

A lot of people I know are finding another form of transport to take them to their holiday destination.

If a new airport were to be built it would the kiss of death for all the villages and towns in this area. We would be unable to sell our homes.

What about trying to protect the beautiful countryside for our children and children's children?

By the time the Government have finished we will not have any countryside left in the area. They don't care because all the people pushing for this airport to be built do not even live in this area. Also they can afford to move home to where ever they like.

We should be so proud of this area with all its natural beauty. Tourism would also be hit with planes every few minutes. People would not want to visit at all.

Another worry is all the extra pollution. I thought this government was suppose to be 'the greenest' yet?

Do the Government actually know what they are doing?

I urge all your readers to write to David Cameron asking him to drop the idea of building any sort of airport in this area at all, thank you.

Diane Parmenter, Rainham

Credit where credit not due

YOUR article on the increase in midwifery application credited the success of BBC's Call the Midwife as a major factor.

The Ucas application cycle finished on January 15, and correctly advised students would have had their applications in long before the deadline if they wanted to get the best chance of success.

The first episode of the show aired on the January 15, finishing just three hours before the deadline.

Our experience is that students that may have previously studied science or healthcare degrees are now considering such courses more carefully, as they attract a bursary from the NHS, thus avoiding some of the newly-raised fees (although there are changes from September).

They could also offer increased chances of employment at the end.

Kent students are fortunate to have excellent centres of study in midwifery in the South East, such as those mentioned at Canterbury Christ Church University.

David Wallace, careers and business partnerships manager, Hillview School for Girls, Tonbridge

Climate debate just old news

THE continual exchanges regarding climate change, between Roy Duff and Phil Granger are getting tiresome.

I believe it is an accepted fact, supported by evidence, climate change is occurring.

The crux of their continual argument seems to be whether or not human activity is the cause of it, or is causing it to occur more rapidly than it otherwise might have done.

One appears to be saying 'yes', the other 'no' and it is clear they're never going to change their respective positions, so the attempts of each of them to persuade the other are doomed to failure.

Christopher Hudson-Gool, Maidstone

A promise to fulfil promises

I WOULD like, through the pages of your newspaper, to say thank you to the people of Kemsley who voted for me at last week's by-election.

I look forward to working hard to fulfil the promises I made during the election, and to helping make Kemsley an even better place to live and work.

Cllr Mike Whiting, Swale

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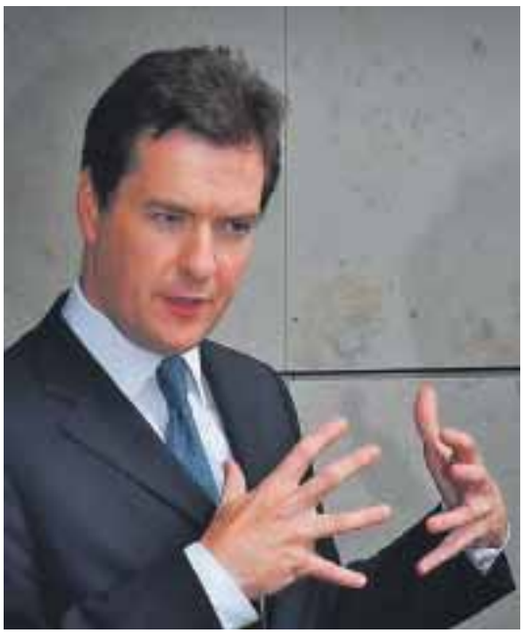
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Your business is our business

Support for small firms would drive our recovery, says FSB



SUPPORT: Calls have been made by the federation for Chancellor George Osborne to remember small businesses in his next Budget

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A SEPARATE Government body with a seat in the Cabinet to defend the interests of small businesses should be created at the heart of Whitehall, says the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) in the lead-up to this year's Budget.

Many Government departments deal with small-business policy, without one overall department thinking 'small first'.

In its Budget submission to Chancellor George Osborne, the FSB is proposing that an agency modelled on the Small Business Administration (SBA) in the US is established to ensure that the voice of small enterprise is not lost among competing Government priorities.

The FSB argues that, despite promises, successive UK governments have failed to fully appreciate the needs of the country's army of small businesses.

Members say too often the sector has seen temporary 'eye-catching' measures that have had no tangible effect on the ground, creating frustration among the small-business community.

A UK Small Business Administration, backed by political will and built for the long term, would break that pattern and help small firms drive economic recovery in the UK.

Roger House, FSB chairman for Kent and Medway, said: "The Chancellor has made clear that there will be no big tax giveaways in this year's Budget and that it is up to the private sector to drive economic recovery by creating jobs and growth.

"The FSB argues that, in order to do that, the Government must think small first by giving the UK's 4.5 million small businesses a more prominent seat within Government.

"Through implementing a Small Business Administration, it would allow the Government to quickly implement policies aimed at helping small businesses – such as credit-easing – which firms have been waiting for since the Autumn Statement. It would give the Government a channel through which it can advertise procurement opportunities and give expert help and advice on exporting as well as improve communication with small firms.

"All of this would in turn help to achieve growth."

The FSB believes that, if modelled on its US counterpart, a UK Small Business Administration could help facilitate small-business finance through measures such as credit-easing and finance to help export.

It could improve procurement opportunities for small firms to meet the Government's 25 per cent aspiration and provide speedy disaster assistance for businesses hit by circumstances outside their control, such as last year's rioting.

Critically, the SBA would challenge other departments to rethink policies that could hurt small-business interests as well as coordinate Government agency communication with small firms – a big weakness in the current arrangements.

RETIREMENT

Budget threat to our tax-free pension cash, warn experts

PENSION benefits are once again under threat from the Government, according to independent financial advisers Brunning Newman Houghton (BNH).

With the Budget due to be unveiled by Chancellor George Osborne on Wednesday, there have been a number of rumours circulating in the financial press as to what cuts or revenue-making regulations will be introduced.

David Brunning, director of BNH in Tunbridge Wells, said: "Of all these whispers from Whitehall, the two that our clients are most concerned about are the threat to tax-free cash – now more properly called the Pension Commencement Lump Sum or PCLS – and possible cuts to tax relief on contributions."

Currently, up to 25 per cent of an individual's pension fund can be taken as this tax-free lump sum from age 55, costing the Government an estimated £2.5 billion annually.

This has been reviewed by various governments and under proposals being considered by a powerful group within the Coalition – Prime Minister David Cameron, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, Chief Secretary to the Treasury Danny Alexander and Osborne – the percentage could be reduced to a fixed monetary sum, if it is kept at all.

Brunning said: "Attacking the tax-free cash has always been an easy option for the Government. It would certainly raise revenue, but it is unclear how much [and] one has to look at the long-term effects.

"This follows limitation on pension contributions, recently cut from £255,000 per annum to £50,000, and a review on the income-tax relief granted on pension contributions.

"Against a background of volatile investment markets and falling pension annuity rates, the major attractions that encourage people to invest in pensions are the prospect of a tax-free lump sum at retirement and tax relief on contributions. If the Government removes these incentives, fewer people will be inclined to save for retirement."

AVIATION

Manston airport sale 'a chance to introduce proper planning'

NEWS that Manston airport is up for sale is confirmation that the local infrastructure is not sufficient to sustain an airport, according to one of the most respected campaign group in the country.

Manston's New Zealand owner, Infratil, announced it was selling the site because it wanted to "refocus its investment profile" and concentrate on retail, production and supplying gas and electricity.

The move puts 123 jobs at risk.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England says the sale is an ideal chance for Thanet council to put into force planning regulations protecting the interests of residents, particularly in the issue of night flights, which Infratil wanted to introduce amid fierce local opposition.

A CPRE spokesman said: "Of course we are saddened to think that existing jobs at Manston might be put at risk, but it confirms our long-standing concerns that Manston has been unable to become a commercial success for many reasons, not least its lack of infrastructure.

"Manston airport has consistently struggled to attract passengers and airline operators despite the massive amount of investment into it.

"If a fresh start means new operators are able to breathe new life into Manston, we sincerely hope Thanet District Council will take this as an opportunity to bring the operation under the proper control of a robust planning agreement to protect the interests of all of Thanet's residents.

"The prospect of intensification of night flights, while Manston airport has been unable to exploit its daytime capacity, has hung over the county for far too long."

Malcolm Kirkaldie was a member of the former watchdog Manston Airport Group. He said: "The former owners of the airport never fully addressed local complaints or issues.

"Developers who come into Thanet need to be accountable to the local community and put something back."

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Backed by the bank

C J Gallard's Almshouses Charitable Trust
The trust provides accommodation for residents of Tunbridge Wells who are over the age of 55 and of limited means. A loan of £150,000 will help the trust to enlarge the existing almshouse flats and to provide six extra homes.

Martha Trust
The Deal-based trust provides homes for life for people with profound disabilities.
A loan of £150,000 enabled the completion of a new house for eight people. A second loan of £637,500 will allow the trust to increase the number of residential and respite care places it offers.

Birchington United Services Club
This is a not-for-profit social club that anyone can join. The club wanted to free itself from loans that tied it to large breweries. Charity Bank's loan of £50,000 will enable it to do so.

Hospice of Hope Romania
Based in Otford, the charity raises funds to support terminally-ill patients in Romania. It borrowed £368,000 to buy a freehold property for its fund-raising activities – a tea room and charitable shop.

British Allergy Foundation
From its Sidcup base, the foundation offers support, practical help and advice to allergy-sufferers and their carers.
It received loan finance to help with two projects: £130,000 to improve fund-raising and £105,000 to set up a 'seal of approval' system for allergy-friendly products.

Folkestone Sports Centre Trust
The trust provides affordable sport and leisure activities to people in Folkestone.
As well as the general public, it works with disadvantaged youths, cardio patients and various community groups.
It needed to refurbish the sports centre and received £1,217,215 in two loans to help with the project.

Headcorn Village Hall
A new hall had been built, and Victorian schoolroom renovated, to accommodate a range of community activities and to allow for expansion. To manage its reserves and income, the charity borrowed £400,000.

Headway Tunbridge Wells and District
A branch of the national Headway brain-injury association, the charity borrowed £300,000 towards the cost of buying and refurbishing a day centre.

Maidstone Hockey Club
One of the oldest clubs in the country, it borrowed £300,000 to finance restoration of the clubhouse building.

Voluntary Action Within Kent
The organisation offers advice, information and support to groups whose work benefits the community, especially those working in education, health and the relief of poverty and distress.
It needed new premises after a merger and a loan of £200,000 helped buy and refurbish the property next door.

Everyone's a winner as people turn to ethical bank after the scandal

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE reputation of bankers – especially those who continue to draw huge bonuses despite working for failing companies – has never been so low.

Depositors' funds used for speculation, toxic debts, mismanagement and bad investments have led to an estimated £850 billion of UK public money being used to bail out ailing banks over recent years.

But one company is approaching the whole issue of banking in a different way.

Charity Bank, which has its head office in Tonbridge, is a UK-regulated bank for deposit accounts only and also a registered charity that lends to charities, social enterprises and community groups.

It invests its money in loans to support charities, community projects and social enterprises and publishes details of every loan it makes. So far it has lent more than £165m to charities and social enterprises.

Interest is charged at 6.5 per cent for secured loans and 7.5 per cent for unsecured.

Almost uniquely since the global banking crisis started, it has seen its deposits grow as customers seek an alternative to established financial houses – and want to know their money is being reinvested for the benefit of society.

"We firmly believe there needs to be serious debate over the role of banking," said Malcolm Hayday, chief executive and founder of Charity Bank.

"The utility side which serves the real economy is important to people's lives and livelihoods.

"Casino banking [the practice whereby a commercial bank engages in speculative or risky financial activities with the aim of achieving high profits] is another thing entirely and should be entirely separate. We can see the results of such activity today."



FOR THE COMMUNITY: Malcolm Hayday, chief executive of Charity Bank

Charity Bank's balance sheet for the end of 2011 stood at just over £80m, up almost 20 per cent on the previous year.

Mr Hayday said: "Charity Bank has continued to grow, year on year, since its inception and to achieve a surplus just before its 10th anniversary is a wonderful achievement.

"Continued success has allowed us to give much-needed financial support to charities and not-for-profit organisations whose work is vital to the community. We are happy to be improving the lives of so many individuals and as the public increasingly choose us as a transparent alternative to traditional banks, this good work looks set to continue."

Charity Bank has benefited from consumers moving towards ethical alternatives and continued distrust of high-street banks. Since the start of the economic crisis, the bank has seen its deposit book grow by 200 per cent.

It has now approved more than 1,000 loans for organisations that high-street banks overlook; of them, 60 per cent have reached Government-designated disadvantaged communities.

The total value of agreed loans topped £26 million in 2011, with the average new loan value standing at £294,000. Of the projects supported, 40 per cent report it would not have been possible without the bank's financial assistance.

Their loan default rate remains less than 0.5 per cent despite the difficult financial environment that has reached all parts of society.

"The bank attracts investors who want to ensure their money is used for projects of community benefit," said Mr Hayday.

"There is now more than ever a greater need for facilities for disadvantaged groups and sustainable projects because of funding cuts.

"In the financial sector, the banks as a whole still have not understood the consequences of their reckless actions. Banks have a unique licence to operate and if the major ones cannot be allowed to fail they also have a unique responsibility.

"If they want there to be growing prosperity they have an obligation to communities not to be excluded. So they should offer more support for community projects and advice to customers – as well as stopping throwing credit cards and debt at people."

NETWORKING

The event where it's good (and helpful) to talk

SMALL businesses are invited to take time out to review their needs at a special event.

Kent networking group Bizlinx, along with other groups including Invicta Chamber of Commerce and Business Community Breakfast, has put together a Spring Review Event to be held at the new SUSCON building near the Dartford Crossing on Thursday, March 22, the day after the Budget.

Bizlinx- Kent director Stuart Kenny said: "The event is an away-day for small companies and individuals to take time out to reflect on their company's needs.

"The problem is that often we are all too busy working to see the wood from the trees."

As well as having solicitors, accountants and representatives from the fields of banking, IT, marketing, finance and commercial insurance, the event includes seminars and workshops covering key issues.

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Training, courses and careers

Training nursery wins high praise

CHILDCARE experts have praised Canterbury College's childcare courses and new training nursery.

At the college's annual early years conference, more than 30 nursery and school workers were shown around the state-of-the-art nursery.

Facilities include areas where children can read, play and do arts and craft. There is also a kitchen where early years students learn to cook nutritious meals for youngsters.

The conference began with a talk from Professor Trisha Maynard, a leading name in the childcare industry, who spoke about the benefits of outdoor playing and learning for children.

Sandra Langley, section manager of early years and play work at Canterbury College, said: "The nursery and school workers were extremely impressed with our nursery facilities, classrooms and the examples of student work on display.

"Professor Maynard was also amazed at the size of the college and was interested in forging further links with our section."

More than 120 of the college's childcare students were at the Early Years Conference which also featured a talk from BTEC childcare and education student Chloe Hogben.

She spoke about her visit to 10 Downing Street on behalf of charity Save the Children.

Students' brush up on decoration

PAINTING and decorating students gained valuable work experience after winning a contract to decorate part of their own college.

Led by Lewis White, 23, from Chatham, the six-strong team sacrificed their half-term holiday to refurbish three classrooms and a staircase at the Maidstone campus of MidKent College.

Maidstone campus site manager Michael Smith said: "It is excellent when students get involved in improving their own facilities because they are getting employment opportunities while the college benefits from their skills.

"Putting them through a full tendering process is great experience for them as it will be crucial for winning jobs in the future."

MidKent College vice principal Jane Jones is working to establish a new organisation called Entrain, which aims to help young people set up their own businesses and bid for work.

She said: "There are plenty of students who possess the ability and work ethic to run a successful business but yet don't know where to start. We believe schools and colleges have a duty to support young people and offer them work when possible."

Virgin looking for latest intake of apprentices

WOULD-BE apprentices who want to work in a modern industry are being sought by Virgin Media.

The company has a service centre in Gillingham where some of the successful applicants to this year's apprenticeship will be based and learn their trade.

The communications company is looking for 120 bright sparks eager to work hard and develop a new set of skills.

Virgin Media first rolled out its apprenticeship scheme four years ago across the company's Networks division, providing young people with the opportunity to earn while they learn.

Since its launch, 530 budding apprentices have joined Virgin Media's scheme, with nearly 700 expected by the end of the year.

Apprenticeship schemes are now a credible alternative to the traditional college and university option and offer young people a fast track route into the working world.

They provide a means of gaining skills, qualifications and hands-on work experience while earning money at the same time.

The new 12-month access field apprentice at Virgin Media will work towards the company's own, nationally recognised NVQ in communication technology.

The qualification ihas been designed to help the apprentices develop a mix of technical and customer engagement skills in a short time frame, with a core focus on delivering a top quality customer experience.

Virgin Media apprentices gain hands-on experience of installing and disconnecting services, diagnosing and fixing faults as well as learning how to ensure the safety of Virgin Media's fibre optic network.

Once qualified, the apprentices will be responsible for installing and maintaining the firm's superfast broadband, phone and digital TV service for customers in Gillingham.

Peter Van-Den-Broeck, head of apprentice programmes at Virgin Media said: "Our field apprenticeship scheme is going from strength to strength, with successful applications more than doubling each year since 2008.

"We are thrilled to be offering apprenticeships to switched-on youngsters in Gillingham – it's a fantastic opportunity for us to invest in the future of the business, while offering local youngsters a great start to their career."

Virgin Media has also created Virgin Media Pioneers, an online community for young entrepreneurs to learn, share and connect with business mentors. Sir Richard Branson and Virgin Media chief executive Neil Berkett have written to MPs around the country on behalf of Virgin Media Pioneers.

They want the Student Loans Fund changed to a Youth Investment Fund where loans at favourable rates are available as start-up capital for young entrepreneurs, not just as loans to prospective students.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817136.



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Travel students get a lesson at big Kent weekend

TRAVEL and tourism students will put classroom theories to the test during English Tourism Week when they head out to attractions to take part in My Kent Big Weekend.

They will meet and greet visitors and conduct surveys into levels of customer satisfaction and perceptions of visitors' My Kent Big Weekend experiences this Saturday and Sunday.

Visit Kent received a record 79,500 applications for the 16,500 free My Kent Big Weekend tickets to 123 visitor destinations and experiences available for this year's celebration of the county's tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses.

Providing work experience for young people interested in pursuing careers in the industry has been a key goal of the countywide event since it was launched six years ago.

This year the students taking part are from Mid Kent College, at Maidstone and Medway; KCollege, at Tonbridge and Ashford; Thanet College; the Future Schools Trust of Cornwallis Academy and New Line Learning Academy, Maidstone; and Herne Bay High School.

Tracey Parker, Visit Kent research manager coordinated the students' programme. She said: "The tourism industry offers great career opportunities for young people in a wide range of roles.

"My Kent Big Weekend provides students with hands-on experience at the frontline of delivering customer service and an insight into domestic tourism attractions. It also gives them the opportunity to take part in research and data analysis designed to help support our tourism industry."

Accountancy competition adds up for grammar school pupils

TONBRIDGE Grammar School beat off competition from 12 other Kent secondary schools in the 2012 regional heat of the ICAEW Business, Accounting and Skills Educational competition (BASE).

Teacher Josie Baker said: "I was delighted by how well our students did. I teach them all economics and try to make our lessons as practical as possible, to encourage students to apply their knowledge to real-life problems.

"The BASE competition was a great chance for my students to find out about an area of work that might interest them in future and they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The day was very well organised and we would definitely like to bring a team or teams again in future."

BASE links schools, students and employers together in a bid to not only increase awareness of a career in chartered accountancy and finance, but to develop key employability skills in the future workforce.

Assuming the role of ICAEW chartered accountants, the students worked in teams of six to analyse, discuss and decide on the next businesses steps of a fictional organisation before presenting their ideas to a panel of business professionals.

The runners up of the day were Hillview School for Girls in Tonbridge.

Tonbridge Grammar School will now go on to represent their region at the national final which takes place at the Hilton Metropole hotel, Birmingham on 28th June 2012.

And St Olave's Grammar School in Orpington will also be at finals after coming through the London heats.



GOOD WITH FIGURES: St Olave's winning pupils

Cheryl makes her mind up to back children's uni

BUCKS Fizz singer and TV presenter Cheryl Baker, has become the patron of the country's longest continuously-running children's university, whioch is run by Kent County Council.

Sevenoaks-resident Cheryl shot to fame when Bucks Fizz won Eurovision in 1981, and now she is backing the Kent Children's University.

The university's lead programme – Learning Destinations – offers children aged seven to 14, of all ability levels, the chance to gain accreditation for after-school learning and put these towards national certificates.

Cheryl said: "Schemes like Kent Children's University not only help boost attainment, but help with attendance, attitudes to learning and, perhaps most importantly, give the children self-confidence. These days confidence in your own abilities is so important, for everyone.

"I'm pleased to have been asked to become patron of Kent Children's University and I hope, if possible, to meet with the gold award winners and their families at the annual award event in July."

Learning Destinations uses local and national tourist attractions, as well as activities or projects offered after school or with an established after-school club or organisation. Each attraction or activity has a number of credits allocated to it, depending on a pupil's time spent participating.

Children with more than 30 credits are eligible for a National Children's University bronze certificate and those who earn a gold certificate (for more than 100 hours of learning) are invited to a university campus for an awards presentation.

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Do you care enough to be a Kent County Council Foster Carer?

Find out more by coming along to one of our Information Sessions being held around the county.

Thursday 19 April
Castle Connections
Railway Terrace/Wells Road
Queenborough ME11 5AY

Thursday 17 May
The Bay Point Club
Ramsgate Road,
Richborough CT13 9QL

Wednesday 23 May
St. Teresa's Church Hall
Maidstone Road,
Ashford TN24 8TX



The presentation will commence at 7pm and there will be an opportunity to meet Fostering Service staff and Foster Carers who can tell you about the rewards of being a Foster Carer.

We welcome applications from all sections of our community.

For more information contact our Initial Enquiries Team
0845 330 2968 or take a look at our website www.kent.gov.uk/fostering

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SKILFUL KENT

FOSTERING

Open up your home with a very noble job

ARE you looking for a career that is challenging but hugely rewarding?

Kent County Council needs people who are interested in becoming foster-carers for children and young people.

You will look after, in your own home, someone else's child or children who are unable to live with their parents for a variety of reasons.

Depending on circumstances, this could be for a few days or more long-term.

A wide variety of people can apply to become foster-carers, from a range of backgrounds and age groups. Applicants can be single, couples, with or without children at home.

The children and young people need someone who will give them the love, support and stability that they need at a difficult time in their lives.

There is a comprehensive induction programme. Foster-carers also receive continuing support and training, a generous fostering allowance and money to provide for the child or children.

Vince Smith has been fostering with KCC for six years. He said: "You have the chance to make a difference to a child's life, which otherwise they may not get.

"Being a foster-carer is a challenge and no two days are the same, but the role is very satisfying."

Kent County Council has a dedicated fostering team that welcomes applicants and gets them started on the road to becoming an approved carer. You can phone 0845 3302968 to find out more.

The team is also out and about throughout the year hosting information sessions. The next three are:

- Thursday, April 19, 7pm-8.30pm. Castle Connections, Railway Terrace/ Wells Road, Queenborough ME11 5AY
- Thursday, May 17, 7pm-8.30pm. The Bay Point Club, Ramsgate Road, Richborough CT13 9QL
- Wednesday, May 23, 7pm-8.30pm. St Teresa's Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Ashford TN24 8TX

The event opens with a presentation about fostering, how to get started and details of the support available.

Afterwards, there will be the opportunity to speak to foster-carers about their experiences.

Jenny Whittle, KCC cabinet member for specialist children's services, said: "One of our priorities is to place children, wherever possible, in their local area so they can still be among friends and relatives and continue to go to the same school.

"If fostering is something you are considering, please call, come along to one of the information sessions or log on to our website."

TRAINING

Be positive about driving your future with a bold change

BE positive when looking for work – there are plenty of opportunities out there. Yes, it is true – trust me!

It may be that you are out of work, looking at the threat of redundancy, or just fancy a change of direction and are worried about the possible risks to your family's well-being, monthly commitments, mortgage and so on.

I would like to possibly whet your appetite to an area of employment you may not have thought about – and that is the transport industry, both passenger and freight, and the logistics that go with it.

My name is Bill Wilford, I am the MD of Kent Metro Ltd in Rochester.

We specialise in training high-quality drivers for the passenger and freight sectors, as well as fork-lift truck operators for the logistics side of the freight operation.

We have been a family business since 1963 and, therefore, acquired a lot of expertise in 49 years.

There are not many major companies in Kent who do not know about us and will happily employ our new drivers.

Once you have passed your test and gone to work, the satisfaction of being a respected team-member is enormous.

From management down, everybody relies on the drivers, who have also become the company ambassadors.

The man or woman at the wheel now has an important dual role, more than ever before. It is you who greets the customer as well as getting the product or passengers to the destination on time – confidently and safely.

An ability to use initiative and being free to use it is important in most jobs, but not more so than passenger and freight transport.

The EU working-time directive as it is now applied through legislation in the UK has in my opinion changed the drivers' role for the better.

A safer environment has improved the working day enormously. Modern vehicles coupled with new technology have transformed the drivers' day, and where else do you get paid handsomely for sitting in traffic on the M25? If you haven't done so already, it is worth a thought. Isn't it?

The cost to acquire these extra professional driver skills is variable according to natural ability and would be assessed during a free assessment drive.

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To find out more or just chat, please call 01634 255905/ 0800 7317277 – we will be happy to speak to you. Or you can look at our website, www.kentmetroltd.co.uk.

If we can help, we will.

COUNTRYSIDE

New group supports rural business

A NEW group is taking an innovative approach to developing opportunities in the rural-business sector in Kent.

Membership of the Rural Business Development & Advancement Group (RBDAG) is free and open to employers, employees, the self-employed, the unemployed and anyone considering entering any rural business, including agriculture, horticulture, countryside-management, landscape-management, tourism, leisure, smallholding, crafts, equine, fisheries and forestry.

The group meets twice a month on a Wednesday evening. It is not necessary to attend every meeting.

Meetings involving a speaker are held at Hadlow College near Tonbridge.

For more information, contact Pat Crawford at Hadlow College (email pat.crawford@hadlow.ac.uk; phone 07771 635684).



ENTREPRENEUR

Nicki has designs on success with launch of her company

RECORD youth unemployment figures and a gloomy outlook proved no deterrent to young businesswoman Nicki Purdie, who has just launched her own design company.

Nicki, 25, has set up React Design, with offices in West Malling and Tunbridge Wells.

The firm offers services ranging from web design to complete marketing packages. There is also a special deal, RB Basics, which has value options aimed at small businesses that may think using a specialist design agency is too expensive.

"It's no secret that jobs are few and far between, so I thought I would set up my own company," said Nicki. "Good marketing is all the more important when times are hard.

"Companies need to have the edge to get what business there is out there and it doesn't need to cost the Earth.

"We ensure clients can take advantage of the very latest technology – for example, our websites are designed to work well on all browsers and multiple platforms such as mobiles, tablets and desktops.

"Some smaller companies may not be experienced in marketing on social platforms like Twitter and Facebook and email campaigns. We can explain how in very simple terms and we want to provide a personal service.

"A good website is vital in this day and age, but high-quality printed materials like business cards and brochures are vital marketing tools, too.

"React offers an all-round package at a reasonable price or just one-off services like website design.

"We are very flexible and always happy to have an informal chat. We really want to be user-friendly."

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One of the UK's leading solar installation companies is looking for installers to carry out solar PV Installations in the South as well as general building expertise, to have carpentry / roofing / electrical experience would be a distinct advantage.

Please forward a CV to
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Tel: **01622 742 708**

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Please forward a full CV by 23rd March 2012

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ESSENTIAL QUALITIES

- Hold a UK or European Union passport
- Hold a Manual PCV (cat D) licence
- Have good references and driving record
- Possess excellent people skills
- English speaking (fluent)
- Must work well as part of a team
- Have a genuine desire to succeed

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Required for 24 months contracts in Crawley.

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Good rates.

Call Sean **020 8387 1541**



KENT AUTISTIC TRUST

As a charitable Trust, we provide high quality services across Kent for adults with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and their families and are proud to offer individual, tailor made, person centred solutions of support of vocational and life skill services through our supported living, residential and day centres. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.

We are looking for enthusiastic, committed staff to provide support to people who want to live in their own home and live their own lives. The candidates need to be able to empathise with the Tenants issues and work well with families and friends who are part of the circle of support. The service is registered under Domiciliary care.

Supported Living Manager £25,306 - £ 28,421(NVQ4)

As every day is different, you must be an effective problem solver, an excellent communicator and organiser.

Ideally you have a good knowledge of working with people with autism and have experience to lead and support our excellent and experienced team to continue to provide an individualised service for every person who is paying for support. You will be 'hands on' for 2-3 days a week, must have or be willing to work towards NVQ level 4. Training and support will be given and for the right candidate this will be a dream job!

Closing date: 10.4.12

Interviews will be held on Monday, 16th of April 2012

Senior Support Worker £14,674 - £ 16,405 (NVQ 3)

If you believe that people have a right to have a life regardless of the barriers then this will be a dream job for you. Ideally you have worked with people with autism in the community or you must have at least a fascination and interest in autism. Equally important is that you are honest, caring, have good empathy and communication skills.

If you think you meet these criteria we would love to hear from you.

Training (induction week + mandatory training) and support will be provided.

Closing date: 10.4.12

Interviews will be held on Wednesday, 18th of April 2012.

For further information please contact Christine Edwards-Daem on 01634 405168.
An application pack can be downloaded from www.kentautistic.com.

As an equal opportunity employer with Investor in People status, we welcome applications from a wide section of the community. Applicants offered employment are subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau paid for by the Trust.



Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for an….

Occupational Therapist

to join and enhance our high calibre team

Medway Scale B2 - point 32 to 41 (£27,052 to £34,549)

(Full time - term time only - pro rata)

Abbey Court School is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Occupational Therapist, with a professional and flexible approach. In essence, somebody with an interest in an educational setting who would like to work in a school committed to enabling pupils to reach their full potential.

Working hours are 37 hours p/w, term time only. Candidates should hold a relevant OT qualification. Benefits include: Local Authority pension scheme, induction training, performance management programme and Continuous Professional Development. Visits to the school are welcomed.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 23rd March 2012

Interview Date: 29th March 2012

For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Café Manager

Our bustling and creative community café needs a new Café Manager- is that you?

Are you a confidant communicator? Are you determined to deliver excellent customer service and quality food and drinks? Do you have the enthusiasm to drive the growth of the business while continuing to build a community atmosphere? Can you work on your own initiative? Can you coach and develop your staff team? Will you not just manage our café, but take ownership for the quality of food and service from your team as well as the financial performance of the company?

Does this describe you? Do you have previous experience of management or team leadership as well as experience of working in a café and an understanding of the financial controls needed to run a business? Do you have a personal licence (this is preferred but not essential)? If you answered yes to all of these then we really want to meet you!

Contact : E-mail CV to **Carol Silver** at **info@thehcf.com**
or phone **01634 819618**

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Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk Online: www.jobs24.co.uk/kent

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL

Tel: 01634 844008
Email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

An Academy with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1200 students including
350 in the co-educational Sixth Form
A member of The Williamson Trust

'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 - "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

School Laboratory Technician

School Laboratory Technician (Biology)

Grade: D2 - Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 per annum pro-rata (£11,248 - £14,304)
Hours: 1 Technician 37 hours per week term time only plus 10 days during the holidays

We require a Laboratory Technician to work within the Biology Department at this highly successful grammar school from 16th April 2012.

You will be a motivated, conscientious and a reliable person able to work effectively as a member of a team as well as individually. Experienced in a laboratory environment with school technician experience an advantage.

Please contact the P A to the Executive Principal Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications - 25th March 2012

Interviews will take place week beginning - 26th March 2012

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Hair **Ref: T0367**
Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week - fixed term Maternity Cover contract - Medway

We are looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes on Levels 1 to 3. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. Hourly paid positions also available.

Lecturer in Child Care **Ref: P0395**
Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week - Medway

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care and Health and Social Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Electrical Installation **Ref: P0070**
Hourly rate: £20.51 - £29.18 per hour
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The ideal candidate will have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate will hold an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work teaching and assessing qualifications.

Partnerships Administrator **Ref: TSN14**
Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week - fixed term Maternity Cover contract - Medway

We are looking to recruit an experienced administrator to join our busy Business Development Department. The successful candidate will work closely with the Partnerships Manager, processing and administering external contracts. The ideal candidate will have excellent ICT and communication skills.

Closing date: 12 noon Wednesday 28 March 2012

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.

MidKent College

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

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Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week - fixed term Maternity Cover contract Medway

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Hourly rate: £20.51 - £29.18 per hour (dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The ideal candidate will have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate will hold an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work teaching and assessing qualifications.

Partnerships Administrator **Ref: TSN14**
Salary: £15,891 - £19,464 per annum Fixed Term contract
Medway

We are looking to recruit an experienced administrator to join our busy Business Development Department. The successful candidate will work closely with the Partnerships Manager, processing and administering external contracts. The ideal candidate will have excellent ICT and communication skills.

Closing date: 12 noon Wednesday 28 March 2012

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.
The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

MidKent College

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

Westlands Academies Trust

WESTLANDS NURSERY
Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

requires staff for their Baby Room

2 Room Leaders (NVQ Level 3),
2 Practitioners (NVQ Level 3),
2 Practitioners (NVQ Level 2)

All with baby room experience

Room Leader £8.28 - £8.70; Level 3: £7.30 - £8.28; Level 2: £6.68 - £7.30 per hour.

Staff will be employed to either work Shift 1 or Shift 2 - Term time only.

Shift 1: 7.30 am - 1.00 pm; Shift 2: 12.30 pm - 6.00 pm (27.5 hours per week).

Applicants should have the necessary skills to support these young pupils to develop their skills and achieve their early learning goals.

You are welcome to contact Melissa Prince (01795 430629) for a preliminary discussion or visit, if desired. Recruitment packs are available from Westlands Primary School or online at www.westlands.org.uk. Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date for applications -19 March 2012: Interviews - 23 March 2012.

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 470862 Fax: 01795 477886 Email: lnp@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Head of School: Mrs L Pearson BSc Hons
Manager of Nursery: Mrs Melissa Prince

Westlands Academies Trust Westlands Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1PF Company No 7344732

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEQM Hospital site.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff

Staff Nurses (Ashford)

to work on our Flexi bank

Closing date for applications - Friday 6th April 2012

Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:
Debbie Burr - 01233 616201 Ext 86202

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 • Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Westlands Academies Trust

WESTLANDS NURSERY
Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

requires

2 Early Years Practitioners
(NVQ 2 preferred)

One in the 2 -3 Year room from 9.00 am - 12.30 pm, Mon - Fri (17.5 hours per week)

One in the 3 - 5 year room from 9.00 am - 3.30 pm, Mon - Fri (30 hours per week)

Term time only

(Salary according to experience: £6.68 - £7.30 per hour)

Applicants should have the necessary skills to support these young pupils to develop their skills and achieve their early learning goals

(Playwork practice qualification would be useful)

You are welcome to contact Melissa Prince (01795 430629) for a preliminary discussion or visit, if desired. Recruitment packs are available from Westlands Primary School

or online at www.westlands.org.uk.

Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date for applications: 19 March 2012: Interviews: 23 March 2012.

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 470862 Fax: 01795 477886
Email: lnp@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Head of School: Mrs L Pearson BSc Hons
Manager of Nursery: Mrs Melissa Prince

Westlands Academies Trust Westlands Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1PF Company No 7344732

Westlands Academies Trust

WESTLANDS SCHOOL
Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

LESSON SUPERVISOR
Salary starting at £16,793 rising to £18,471 (pro-rata)
(equal to £12,516 - £13,766 depending on experience)

This post is designed to provide supervision of classes in the absence of the subject teacher or form tutor. The job is not a teaching role but will require good classroom management skills as well as a confident personality, a good presence and excellent communication skills.

Applicants should be well educated, preferably to further education level, and have experience of giving support in the classroom, preferably as a Teaching Assistant, although other qualifications and personal/work experiences will be taken into account.

Employment will start after a one-week paid in-service training course. There will be a six-month probationary period.

8.25am - 3.20pm with 1 hr unpaid breaks, term time only plus 1 staff training day and 5 weeks paid holiday a year, or as relevant to years of service in a similar post.

EXAM SUPPORT
INVIGILATORS/READERS AND SCRIBES
£10 per hour

Casual staff required to increase our existing pool of Exam Invigilators who uphold the integrity of external and internal examinations and enforce JCQ regulations. As successful candidates may be required to read and scribe for pupils, applicants should have a good level of literacy.

Recruitment packs are available from the school or online (www.westlands.org.uk)
Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date: Wednesday 28 March 2012

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. These posts are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA

Westlands Academies Trust Company No 7344732

THE NEW SCHOOL AT WEST HEATH SEVENOAKS

"Rebuilding lives through education"
Principal & Chief Executive: Mrs Christina Wells (BA Hons.)
Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1SR

The New School at West Heath provides education, therapy and residential care for male and female students from 11-19 years of age with emotional, behavioural and social communication difficulties

Due to the increase of residential care we currently have the following opportunities to join our well established Residential Care Team.

Support Worker

- Salary £17,672
- Full time term time only - 39 weeks
- Hours 1pm to 11pm Monday to Thursday and every 3rd Friday 10.30 to 4.30
- NVQ Level 3 or willingness to work towards

The New School at West Heath has just been awarded Outstanding from the recent Ofsted Welfare Inspection. Come and join the Outstanding Team

The Application form and job description can be found on the web site www.westheathschool.com or if you wish please contact Lynne McGrath on lynne.mcgrath@westheathschool.com or tel: 01732 460 553

Closing date for applications is 20th March 2012

WELLNESS COACHES
REQUIRED

We are a Health & Nutrition companylooking for serious people who want to earn £500-£1000+ per month full/part-time working from home. Full training and support available.

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THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

LEARNING SUPPORT PRACTITIONERS- Behaviour, Emotional, Social Difficulties

To provide support for students on a 1:1 basis, or as a group and to work as a member of a team to support young people with a range of conditions with a focus on behaviour and emotional, social difficulties.

SALARY SCALE: £9,800 - £10,543 FOR 30 HOURS PER WEEK, 38 WEEKS PER YEAR

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

Closing date: Wednesday 28th March 2012
Interview Date: Monday 16th April 2012

Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination

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PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

LECTURER IN PLASTERING

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Programme Area.

Salary Scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week, all year

Closing date:
Wednesday 28th March 2012

Interview Date:
Tuesday 17th April 2012

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEQM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Part time Staff Nurses Ashford/Margate

Closing date for applications - Friday 6th April 2012

Qualifications

Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)
To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Debbie Burr - 01233 616201 Ext 86202

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 • Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

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PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - In the Borough of Swale

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE RESTRICTED BYWAY ZSX60, SHEERNESS

RESTRICTED BYWAY ZSX60, SHEERNESS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Restricted Byway ZSX60 (on the seawall Esplanade) between the Sailing Club and 124 Marine Parade, Cheyney Rock from the 30th March 2012.

The route will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 11 May 2012.

The route is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route for pedestrians is via a ramp beside the Sailing Club, east along Marine Parade and up the steps back onto the Esplanade, other users can continue along Marine Parade to Barton's Point. These routes will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For further enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis.

PROW - In the District of Thanet

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH TMX13 IN MARGATE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH TMX13 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1) AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath TMX13 between Hartsdown Road and NGR TR 349 700 a distance of approximately 170 metres from the 2nd April 2012

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on and near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via a temporary diversion located 25 metres east of TMX13 which will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For further enquiries please contact: Louise Adams

PROW - In the Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATHS MT417 & MT418, HILDENBOROUGH)

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 8 March 2012 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding:-

Public Footpath MT417 which commences at its junction with Public Bridleway MT52 at NGR TQ 5801 4929 (Point A) and runs in a south south westerly direction for 37 metres, west south westerly for 24 metres thence south westerly for 294 metres to NGR TQ 5781 4901 (Point B). The path then turns to run in a south south easterly through south easterly direction for 320 metres to its connection with Public Footpath MT37 (at a point 10 metres north of the foot bridge) at NGR TQ 5798 4876 (Point C). The path has a width of 1.5 metres.

Public Footpath MT418 which commences at its connection with Public Bridleway MT52 at NGR TQ 5816 4920 (Point D) and runs in a south south westerly direction to the north western side of the boundary for 138 metres to its connection with Public Footpath MT37 at NGR TQ 5811 4908 (Point E). The path has a width of 2.6 metres

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

This Order came into force on 8 March 2012, but if a person aggrieved by the Order desires to question the validity thereof or of any provision contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of Section 53(3)(c)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or that any of the requirements of Schedule 15 to the Act have not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he or she may, under Paragraph 12 of Schedule 15 to the Act, within 42 days from 18 March 2012 make an application for the purpose to the High Court.

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 18th March 2012

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council

PLANNING

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/MA/0054/2012 - Proposed development at Oakwood House, Oakwood Park, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8AE

Kent County Council is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for change of use from a training centre with overnight accommodation to a hotel (use class C1) with ancillary training facilities including use for a D1 provision of vocational training.

You may view this application at Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/SE/0060/2012 - Proposed development at Four Elms Primary School, Bough Beech Road, Four Elms, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 6NE

Four Elms Primary School is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a single storey extension to front entrance and rear extensions to 2 classrooms and the rear lobby/cloakroom area. A new canopy and some changes to existing windows are also proposed. The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated. The proposed development could affect the setting of a nearby listed building.

You may view this application at Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG or at the Edenbridge Surgery, (Thursdays only), adjoining Edenbridge Leisure Centre, Stangrove Park, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5LU.

THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/CA/0062/2012 - Proposed development at Herne C of E Junior School, School Lane, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 7AL

Herne C of E Junior School is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a proposed single storey extension. The proposed development is near the Herne Conservation Area and could affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development is also near a public right of way.

You may view this application at Canterbury City Council, Canterbury Main Office, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW or Herne Bay Office, William Street, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 7AL.

Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Please note that our website will be unavailable between 12 noon on Friday 16 March until the end of Sunday 18 March 2012. Whilst maintenance is undertaken during this period, you can use an alternative website at http://host1.atriumsoft.com/ePlanningOPSkent/searchPageLoad.do

If you have any problems accessing this website please contact the Planning Applications Group on 01622 221061.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 24 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough/District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 18 March 2012

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

12/00551/FUL Total Fina Pantiles Service Station, Broadwater
- Variation of condition 16 of TW/90/01434: Redevelopment of existing petrol filling station - to amend operating hours of store to 24 hour trading Monday to Sunday (CA)

12/00597/FUL Garages & Land Rear Of 21 - 23 Eridge Road, Broadwater
- Demolition of existing garages and construction of two detached houses (CA)

12/00598/CAC Garages & Land Rear Of 21 - 23 Eridge Road, Broadwater}
- Conservation Area Consent - Demolition of existing garages (CA)

12/00577/FUL Postern Park Postern Lane, Capel
- Change of use of parcel of land to front of house from agricultural to residential. Repositioning of access driveway and erection of traditional 'estate' fencing (painted black) to part of south western boundary of garden (LB)

12/00533/FUL 4 Clanricarde Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Permanent change of use of the whole building to Children's Nursery (Class D1) for a maximum of 58 children aged between 6 months and 5 years, and use the rear of property as a children's play area; Wooden buggy park at rear; Construction of a ramped access to the property (CA)

12/00628/FUL Tesco Tunbridge Wells Metro 29 Grosvenor Road, Culverden
- Alterations to elevations (CA) (LB)

12/00553/HOUSE Underhill Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst
- Two storey extension with first floor windows to side (north and south) elevations and first floor Juliette balcony with french doors to rear and alterations (LB)

12/00592/HOUSE Ockley Mill Farm Ockley Lane, Hawkhurst
- Demolition of existing building and erection of ancillary recreation rooms, garaging and storage (LB)

12/00595/LBC Ockley Mill Farm Ockley Lane, Hawkhurst
- Listed building consent - Demolition of existing building and erection of ancillary recreation rooms, garaging and storage (LB)

12/00609/HOUSE The Poplars Green Road, Horsmonden
- Single storey oak framed orangery extension replacing existing conservatory and replacement doors (CA)

12/00616/FUL Lamberhurst Vineyard Furnace Lane, Lamberhurst
- Conversion of restaurant to office accomodation (CA) (LB)

12/00649/LBC Coggers Farm House The Broadway, Lamberhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to create a new cloakroom and W.C. to rear of dwelling; Removal of part of wall between living room and old shop unit (LB)

12/00656/LBC York House 71 - 73 High Street, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed Building Consent: Hang new frame, ledged and braced door in the approved infill for the undercroft (LB)

12/00058/FUL 50B Grove Hill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Amalgamation of garage into enlarged kitchen (CA)

12/00497/HOUSE Shandon House Pembury Road, Park
- Conversion of garage to gym and conversion of carport to garage (CA)

12/00604/FUL Garage Block Adj 4 Calverley Park Gardens, Park
- Demolition of garages and construction of one detached house (CA) (LB)

12/00614/HOUSE Appletree Cottage Camden Park, Park
- Renovation of existing property, two storey extension to southern front elevation and orangery to west side elevation (CA) (LB)

12/00621/CAC Garage Block Adj 4 Calverley Park Gardens, Park
- Conservation Area Consent - Demolition of garages (CA)

12/00660/HOUSE 20 Cambridge Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Removal of existing conservatory and erection of two-storey rear infill extension (CA)

12/00585/FULMJ Tesco Plc Pembury Road, Pembury
- Erection of a temporary A1 (Food) and temporary use of land for retail car park (MAJOR)

12/00569/FUL Hartridge Manor Farm Paley Lane, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish

- Solar panel array on agricultural land (LB)

12/00613/FUL The Malt House Dorothy Avenue, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish
- Demolition of existing wood-mill and erection of three new dwellings (LB)

12/00503/LBC David Salomons Estate Broomhill Road, Southborough Town Council
- Listed Building Consent: New heating pipework enclosed within boxwork in connection with the installation of a biomass boiler (LB)

12/00537/LBC The Oast House Pennington Road, Southborough Town Council
- Listed Building Consent: Garden room extension (LB)

12/00659/FUL 15B Church Road Southborough, Southborough Town Council
- Variation of condition 3 of TW/11/02592: Change of use from B1/B8 to D2 (retrospective) relating to opening hours - amend to Monday to Thursday, open til 8pm; Friday and Saturday - open til 9pm; Sunday - open til 6pm (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 17 March 2012

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/0072/S - 3, WALNUT TREE COTTAGES, HIGH STREET, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6HX - Application for listed building consent to move kitchen to modern extension, demolish stud wall within modern extension, install new toilet under the stairs, replace flooring through ground floor, repoint part of the chimney stack and repair/ replace flashing, and re-align guttering. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0278/S - UNIT 2 CLINTON BUSINESS CENTRE, LODGE ROAD, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0QF - Change of use of building from B1/B2 to B8 and insertion of a mezzanine floor as shown on Drawing No 7913_00 and scale 1:1250 site location plan and supported by applicants statement received on 24 February 2011. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/2108/N - THE OLD SCHOOL, 92A, MELVILLE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT - Change of use of existing dormitory building into 10 residential bedsits (with no external building works). **Reason: 6**

MA/12/0203/N - EYHORNE MANOR, MUSKET LANE, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1UU - An application for prior approval for the installation of 8.5m high timber pole and associated wires. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/12/0212/N - YELSTED COURT FARM, YELSTED LANE, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 7UT - Application for listed building consent to replace kitchen windows with French Doors. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/0233/S - SMITHS HALL, LOWER ROAD, WEST FARLEIGH, KENT - Construction of an underground woodchip store. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/12/0264/S - VERRALLS BARN, ST ANNS GREEN LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9AQ - Demolition of remaining fire damaged elements of the existing dwelling and erection of a replacement replica dwelling. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/0268/N - 21, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1EB - Change of use from Class A1 to a beauty parlour (specialising in hair removal) with ancillary sales of related products. **Reason: 2**

MA/12/0269/S - VERRALLS BARN, ST ANNS GREEN LANE, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9AQ - Listed building consent for the demolition of the remaining fire damaged elements of the existing dwelling. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/0271/N - RUBY, CHATHAM ROAD, SANDLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3AY - Retrospective application for the change of use of residential care home to single dwelling. **Reason: 9**

MA/12/0277/S - SUSANS FARM, MARDEN THORN, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9LJ - Conversion of barn to residential accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/0309/S - LAND TO THE EAST OF BERESFORD COTTAGE, THE QUARRIES, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, KENT - Retention of outbuilding indicated to be demolished under MA/07/1774 for use as ancillary to dwelling house. **Reason: 2**

MA/12/0324/S - RHENCULLEN, BRIDGE STREET, LOOSE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0BY - Retrospective application for hard landscaping works to rear garden (re-submission of MA/11/1872). **Reason: 2**

MA/12/0346/S - FORMER HORTICULTURAL UNIT HADLOW COLLEGE, OAKWOOD PARK, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8AW - Variation of condition 11 of planning permission MA/10/0485 which currently reads:- No work shall take place on the development site until the junction works as shown in principle on drawing number DHA/T0044/01 Rev A has been carried out in accordance with the design and specification to be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and to implemented to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority. To read:- The junction works shown in principle on drawing number DHA/T0044/01 Rev A shall be carried out in accordance with the design and specification to be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and shall be implemented to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority prior to the occupation of any part of the development. **Reason: 6**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.
9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **1st April 2012**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 18th March 2012



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PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//12/00053/LUE: Northolm Lodge, Rose Lane, Bishopsbourne, CT4 5JN Certificate of existing lawful use for occupation of dwelling without compliance with condition 05 of planning permission ES/6/71/446 (agricultural occupancy conditions). **Applicant: Mr R Chew** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00078/FUL: Broome Quarry House, Canterbury Road, Barham, CT4 6QU Application for a new planning permission to replace planning permission CA/09/0072/FUL for alterations and extensions to dwelling and erection of detached garage in order to extend the time limit for implementation. **Applicant: Mrs Ellen Kent** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00089/FUL: Land corner of Essex Street and Forge Lane, Whitstable Demolition of hall and erection of pair of semi-detached dwellings and one single bed unit. **Applicant: JDS Homes Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00090/CAC: Land corner of Essex Street and Forge Lane, Whitstable Demolition of hall in connection with redevelopment of site to provide one pair of semi-detached dwellings and one single bed unit. **Applicant: JDS Homes Ltd** Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.

CA//12/00127/FUL: 28 Station Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5QJ Coating of roof tiles to materially alter the appearance of the dwelling. **Applicant: Mr P Harris** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00130/FUL: 40 Spenser Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5QN Replacement UPVC windows to front of dwelling. **Applicant: Mrs Hazel Halford** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00137/FUL: Land rear of 7 Victoria Road, Canterbury, CT1 3SG Erection of detached dwelling. **Applicant: Dr C R H Jubber** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00158/FUL: The Canterbury Steiner School, Perry Court, Garlinge Green, Chartham, CT4 5RU Redevelopment of school to provide 12 dwellings including alterations to listed buildings. **Applicant: The Canterbury Steiner School** Reason: Major and affects setting of a listed building.

CA//12/00159/LB: The Canterbury Steiner School, Perry Court, Garlinge Green, Chartham, CT4 5RU Alterations to existing farmhouse and Oast. **Applicant: The Canterbury Steiner School** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//12/00160/OUT: Land adjacent Thanet Way, Whitstable Development comprising public open space, church, indoor sports facilities, business park and associated landscaping and access. (Outline application). **Applicant: George Wilson Developments** Reason: Contrary to development plan and major.

CA//12/00173/FUL: Land on north side of St Radigund's Street between No. 23 and the River Stour, Canterbury Installation of two photo voltaic arrays with a switch gear housing. **Applicant: The Abbots Mill Project CIC** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00211/FUL: 19 Joy Lane, Whitstable, CT5 4LT Insertion of dormer window in eastern roof slope and rooflight in western roof slope of dwelling. **Applicant: F Raymond** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00246/FUL: 45A High Street, Bridge, CT4 5JZ Single-storey rear extension. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs J Paterson** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00251/ADV: St Lawrence Cricket Ground, New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3NZ Erection of two sided illuminated totem sign. **Applicant: Kent County Cricket Club** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00263/TPO: Elms Court, 46 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DT Crown thinning and reduction of Yew tree subject of TPO No 5 of 1994. **Applicant: Elms Court** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00271/FUL: Land south west of Denstead Manor, Denstead Lane, Chartham, CT4 7NL Installation of ground mounted array of photo voltaic panels. **Applicant: Mr Kingsman** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.

CA//12/00280/FUL: 2 Leggetts Lane, Whitstable, CT5 1AW Installation of flue. **Applicant: Mrs Houston** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00285/FUL: 66 Stanley Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5SJ Removal of part of front wall and formation of hardstanding. **Applicant: J Young** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00288/FUL: Pilgrims Mede, Summer Hill, Harbledown, CT2 8NJ Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings accessed from Lanfranc Gardens. **Applicant: William King Homes Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//12/00412/LB: 45A High Street, Bridge, CT4 5JZ Single-storey rear extension. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs J Paterson** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.control@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 9 April 2012**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 16 March 2012

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or its setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 2nd APRIL 2012

SW/11/1447:
Extension, single storey study/bedroom - 1 Upper Bannister Hill Cottage, BORDEN; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/11/1621:
Erection of two dwellings - Little Radfield Orchard, London Road, TONGE; **REASON 2**

SW/12/0247:
Single storey side extension - Wickham House, TUNSTALL; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0265:
Demolition of existing care home, residential property (451 Minster Road) and part of garage court to rear. Proposed erection of a phased new-build care home - Barton Court, New Road, MINSTER; **REASON 3**

SW/12/0267:
Single storey side/rear extension and conversion of loft - 21 Abbey Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

MR P DUDLEY TRADING AS PD TRANSPORT OF HURDIBACK, PAPA STOUR, SHETLAND, SCOTLAND, ZE2 9PW

Is applying for a licence to use Ashford International Truckstop, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, Kent, TN24 OGB

As an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle and 1 trailer.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre (s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Hare hills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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south east water

WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991
SOUTH EAST WATER LIMITED
TEMPORARY BAN ON WATER USE

South East Water gives notice that, pursuant to sections 76 and 76A-C of the Water Industry Act 1991, it prohibits from the beginning of 5 April, throughout its entire area of supply (extending across parts of Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire), the following uses of water supplied by it, subject only to the concessions here specified:

	Prohibition	Concession
(a)	Watering a garden using a hosepipe, other than for health and safety reasons	• By persons over 65 • By persons who have a disabled person's badge (known as a "blue badge") issued under the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (England) Regulations 2000 • Watering of newly laid turf for first 28 day period • Watering with water efficient watering systems drip or micro irrigation • For national and international sports events
(b)	Cleaning a private motor-vehicle (or a trailer for such a vehicle) using a hosepipe	• By businesses specialising in hand car washing that use hosepipes as part of their processes
(c)	Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe	• By persons over 65 • By persons who have a disabled person's badge (known as a "blue badge") issued under the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (England) Regulations 2000 • Watering with water efficient watering systems drip or micro irrigation
(d)	Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe	• By small commercial operators by agreement with South East Water • Cleaning of a vessel used as a primary residence • Where fouling is causing increased fuel consumption • Removal of graffiti • Cleaning engines designed to be cleaned with a hosepipe
(e)	Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool	• Pools with a water conservation recycling system
(f)	Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use	• No concessions
(g)	Filling or maintaining a domestic pond (manmade or natural) using a hosepipe	• The topping up of an established domestic pond if the welfare of fish in the pond is at risk
(h)	Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain (including a cascade or any other display of moving water, and includes filling by permanent plumbing)	• No concessions
(i)	Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe, other than for health and safety reasons	• By small commercial operators whose businesses depend on work involving this, by agreement with South East Water • Very low water use technologies • Cleaning apparatus not connected to mains water supply • Removal of graffiti
(j)	Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe, other than for health and safety reasons	• By small businesses whose sole operations are cleaning of hard standing, by agreement with South East Water • By businesses where dust suppression is a requirement • Removal of graffiti • Low water use technologies
(k)	Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe, other than for health and safety reasons	• By small businesses whose sole operations are cleaning of hard standing, by agreement with South East Water • By businesses where dust suppression is a requirement • Removal of graffiti • Low water use technologies

For the meaning of certain terms used in this notice and specific exceptions from the prohibitions, see the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010. Amongst other things, that Order defines:

(a) using a hosepipe to include both drawing water supplied by South East Water at the time of the prohibition through a hosepipe from a container and also filling or partly filling a container with such water by means of a hosepipe;

(b) garden to include a park, gardens open to the public, a lawn, a grass verge, an area of grass used for sport or recreation, an allotment garden as defined in section 22(1) of the Allotments Act 1922, any area of allotment used for non-commercial purposes and any other green space; and

(c) health and safety to include removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety and preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease.

For the purposes of the prohibitions relating to the use of a hosepipe, the prohibitions apply whether or not any device such as a sprinkler is attached to the hosepipe.

Any person who contravenes any of these prohibitions is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

Representations concerning any of these prohibitions may be made in writing by 29 March 2012 to Lee Dance at South East Water, Rocfort Road, Snodland, Kent ME6 5AH. If, as a result of such representations, South East Water decides to vary any terms of the prohibition, a further notice will be published. Subject to this, the prohibitions will have effect from the beginning of 5 April and will remain in force until further notice.

Further details concerning the prohibitions and actions concerning the current drought may be found on South East Water's website at www.southeastwater.co.uk

South East Water Limited Rocfort Road Snodland Kent ME6 5AH

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HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

BLACKWALL ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Blackwall Road, Ashford, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 5 weeks as shown below.

BLACKWALL ROAD NORTH will be closed between the junctions with Kennington Road and Blackwall Road from 19 March 2012 for up to 3 days.

The alternative route is via A2070 Kennington Road and Blackwall Road South.

BLACKWALL ROAD will be closed between the junctions with Blackwall Road North / South and Goodcheap Lane from 22 March 2012 for up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via Blackwall Road North/South, A2070 Kennington Road, The Street, Hinxhill Road, Naccolt Road, Blackwall and Blackwall Road.

SNARGATE ROAD, KENARDINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new electricity supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Snargate Road, Kenardington, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Higham Farm.

The alternative route is via Kenardington Road, B2080 The Street, Station Road (Rhee Wall), Arrowhead Lane, Hogg Lane and Snargate Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

BOGSHOLE LANE AND GOLDEN HILL, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bogshole Lane and Golden Hill, Whitstable, on or after 19 March until 28 March 2012 inclusive, apart from Sunday.

The planned work times are between 7.00 am and 7.00 pm each day, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

The roads will be closed in phases between the junctions with Clapham Hill and Eversleigh Rise, as signposted on site.

The alternative route is via A290 Clapham Hill and A2990 (Old) Thanet Way.

Access will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so, but there are likely to be times when this is not possible, due to the use of machinery.

BROOMFIELD ROAD, HERNE AND BROOMFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broomfield Road, Herne and Broomfield, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 5 days between 7.00 am and 7.00 pm.

The road will be closed in phases between the junctions with Mill Lane and Margate Road, as advised locally and signposted on site.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Mill Lane, Hunters Forstal Road and Margate Road. Local signposted diversions are likely to be in place for some of the works.

CASTLE ROAD & KINGSDOWN PARK, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of sewer relining works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Castle Road & Kingsdown Park, Whitstable, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Castle Road will be closed to the north of the junction with Northwood Road.

The northern section of Kingsdown Park will be closed at its eastern junction near **Kingsdown Lodge**, with access maintained from Northwood Road up to the point of closure.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Tankerton Road, the southern section of Kingsdown Park and Northwood Road.

There will be temporary traffic lights at the junction of Castle Road, Northwood Road and Kingsdown Park.

CHURCH LANE AND HIGHSTEAD, CHISLET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable high-friction road surfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Lane and Highstead, Chislet, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 days, as signposted on site.

CHURCH LANE will be closed to the north of the north junction with Chitty Lane

The alternative route is via Hollow Road and Old Tree Road.

HIGHSTEAD will be closed to the north of Highstead Farm.

The alternative route is via Highstead via Ford Hill, Maypole Lane and Old Tree Road.

The closures are between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm each day. Only one road will be closed at any one time.

HOADES WOOD ROAD, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hoades Wood Road, Sturry, on or after 26 March 2012 for up to 3 days, between 7.00 am and 7.00 pm.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Babs Oak Hill and Cedar Road.

The alternative route is via Babs Oak Hill, A28 Island Road, Homewood Road and Cedar Road.

LONDON ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace the high-friction carriageway surfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on London Road, Canterbury, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00 pm and midnight each night.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the zebra crossing, near the junction with the A290 St Dunstan's Street / Whitstable Road.

The alternative routes are

Eastbound via Rheims Way, St Peter's Place and St Dunstan's Street

Westbound via A290 Whitstable Road, St Thomas Hill, Rough Common Road, Palmers Cross Hill, A2050 Harbledown By-pass and London Road.

MERCERY LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new water supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mercery Lane, Canterbury, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to one week, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Buttermarket.

There is no suitable diversion, but there will be limited access from High Street / Parade up to the point of closure.

B2205 SEA STREET, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to repair a street light fault, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2205 Sea Street, Whitstable, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

This closure will have the following effects on traffic in Whitstable.

SEA STREET - will be closed in the vicinity of The Sail Lofts.

- There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Red Lion Lane and Leggett's Lane.
- The alternative route is via Harbour Street.
- The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Sea Street will be suspended from the point of closure for access only.
- There will be No Right Turn from Sea Street into the northern junction with Harbour Street.

HARBOUR STREET - will be closed to westbound traffic from the western entrance to The Harbour.

- There will be no access to westbound through traffic between the junctions with Cromwell Road and The High Street. Access will be maintained up to The Harbour.
- The alternative route is via Cromwell Road, Oxford Street and High Street
- The One-way Traffic Order between the Woodlawn Street and High Street will be reversed, so that traffic flows eastbound from The High Street direction
- The bus stops will be moved to the north side of Harbour Street, with some parking will allowed on the south side

CROMWELL ROAD - will be closed to east bound traffic at the junction with Oxford Street.

- There will be no access into Cromwell Road from Oxford Street
- The alternative route is via Oxford Street, High Street, Harbour Street and Cromwell Road

HIGH STREET - Will be closed to southbound traffic at the junction with Terrys Lane

- Traffic will be routed via Harbour Street, Cromwell Road, Oxford Street and High Street

HORSEBRIDGE ROAD - The one-way order Traffic Order will be suspended to allow access from the junction with Red Lion Lane to the junction with Terrys Lane

RED LION LANE - There will be No Right Turn into Harbour Street.

VICTORIA STREET, ALBERT STREET & WOODLAWN STREET There will be No Left Turn into Harbour Street from each of these roads.

ST ALPHEGE LANE & ST RADIGUND'S STREET, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of cable ducting in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Alphege Lane & St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, on or after 19 March 2012 as shown below.

ST ALPHEGE LANE will be closed from 19 March 2012 for up to 3 weeks.

The alternative route is via Palace Street, Orange Street and King Street.

PALACE STREET will be closed for 1-2 nights at the end of this 3-week period, as advised locally and signposted on site.

The alternative route is via King Street and Orange Street.

When Palace Street is closed the No Entry Order in respect of King Street, at the junction with Palace Street, will be suspended.

ST RADIGUND'S STREET will be closed from 10 April 2012 for up to 1 week.

The closure will be from the junction with Borough/ Northgate for a distance of approximately 30 metres.

The alternative route is via Northgate, Kingsmead Road, St Stephen's Road, The Causeway, Pound Lane and St Radigund's Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of St Radigund's Street will be suspended whilst it is closed, between the junction with Knott's Lane and the point of closure to allow access, when the relevant signs are covered.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (ST DUNSTAN'S AREA, CANTERBURY) (EXPERIMENTAL RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2012

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under Sections 9 and 10 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order, which will be in force for a maximum experimental period of 18 months, will:

1. **Prohibit all motor vehicles from passing beneath the West Gate.**
2. **Prohibit southeast bound traffic on St Dunstan's Street between Westgate Grove and St Peter's Place except for buses and taxis.**
3. **Restrict traffic passing to the side of the West Gate to single file by the use of traffic signals, allowing all vehicles to pass northwest bound and buses and taxis only southeast bound.**
4. **Restrict southeast bound traffic on lower St Dunstan's Street and southwest bound traffic on North Lane to buses, taxis, cycles and vehicles requiring access.**
5. **Close Pound Lane at its junction with St Dunstan's Street, except for cycles.**
6. **Introduce a 20mph speed limit in lower St Dunstan's Street, Linden Grove and the Whitehall Road area, North Lane and part of St Peter's Place.**
7. **Introduce a 7.5T weight limit, except for loading, on all roads within the city walls, Northgate, London Road, St Dunstan's Street, Whitstable Road and A290 to its junction with A299 Thanet Way.**
8. **Remove parking bays in lower St Dunstan's Street.**
9. **Relocate taxi rank from St Dunstan's Street to North Lane.**

The Order was made on 16 March 2012 and will come into force on 27 March 2012.

The Highway Authority will be considering in due course whether the provisions of this experimental Order should continue in force indefinitely.

Any alterations to this Order which will render it less restrictive may be authorised by the Transportation Manager, without the requirement to re-advertise the Order, under section 10(2) of the Act, and after consultation with the chief officer of police.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order, may be examined at the offices of Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW or at Ashford Highway Depot, Kent County Council, Javelin Way. Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Representations to this Traffic Order should be made in the first 6 months of the experimental period. If you wish to support or object to the Experimental Order you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to the Transportation Manager, Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford TN24 8AD or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by noon on Friday 14 September 2012

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford and in District of Sevenoaks

VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD, DARENTH AND SOUTH DARENTH (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Various Roads in Dartford, Darenth and South Darenth as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 25th March 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the event is planned to last 1 day between 09.00hrs - 12.00hrs. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in schedule 1.

Schedule 1

Road name:	Darenth Road, Dartford
Extent:	Southbound from David Lloyds Entrance
Diversion:	No diversion required closure will be in place for 10 minutes
Road name:	Powdermill Lane, Dartford
Extent:	Between its junctions with Darenth Road and Warwick Way
Diversion:	No diversion required closure will be in place for 10 minutes
Road name:	Warwick Way, Dartford
Extent:	Between its junctions with Powdermill Lane and Hawley Road
Diversion:	No diversion required closure will be in place for 10 minutes
Road name:	A225 Hawley Road, South Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Warwick Way and Parsonage Lane
Diversion:	No diversion required closure will be in place for 10 minutes
Road name:	Parsonage Lane, Hawley/Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Hawley Road and Roman Villa Road.
Diversion:	Signed Diversion route from Parsonage Lane roundabout to Darenth Hill roundabout (and vice versa) via Hawley Road, Princes Road and Green St Green Rd and the reverse

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

Road name:	Darenth Hill, Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions Roman Villa Road and Green Street Green Road.
Diversion:	B260 Green Street Green Road, A225 Princes Road, A225 Hawley Road, A225 Main Road and Devon Road
Road name:	Roman Villa Road, Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Darenth Hill and Holmesdale Hill
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road and A225 Princes Road
Road name:	Rabbits Road, South Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Shrubbery Road and Canada Farm Road
Diversion:	Shrubbery Road, Holmesdale Hill, St Margarets Road and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road name:	Gills Road, South Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Holmesdale Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	B260 Green Street Green Road, A225 Princes Road, A225 Hawley Road, A225 Main Road and Devon Road
Road name:	Wilson Lane, South Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Gills Road and Rabbits Road
Diversion:	B260 Green Street Green Road, A225 Princes Road, A225 Hawley Road, A225 Main Road and Devon Road
Road name:	Canada Farm Road, South Darenth
Extent:	Between its junctions with Three Gates Road and B260 Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	Valley Road, Fawkham Road and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road name:	St Margarets Road, Darenth ONE WAY from Homesdale Hill
Extent:	To B260 Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	B260 Green Street Green Road, A225 Princes Road, A225 Hawley Road, A225 Main Road and Devon Road
Road name:	St Margarets Road, Darenth
Extent:	closed at its junction with B260 Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	No diversion required closure will be in place for 10 minutes

Road name: Darenth Hill

Extent: Between its junctions with Roman Villa Road to B260 Green Street Green Road

Diversion: B260 Green Street Green Road, A225 Princes Road and A225 Hawley Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the event, Les Witton Dartford 10KM

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

COOMBE VALLEY ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a railway bridge safety inspection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Coombe Valley Road, Dover, from 19 March 2012 at 10.00 pm until Tuesday 20 March at 6.00 am.

The road will be closed approximately 10 metres either side of the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via London Road, Crabble Hill, Crabble Road, Crabble Avenue, Hillside Road, Bunkers Hill Road, St Radigund's Road, Barwick Road and Coombe Valley Road plus Buckland Avenue, Cherry Tree Avenue and London Road for the eastbound diversion.

DOVER ROAD AND UPPER ROAD, GUSTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to refurbish bridges over the A2 Trunk Road, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Dover Road and Upper Road, Guston, as shown below.

DOVER ROAD will be closed from 19 March 2012 for up to 3 nights.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the bridge over the A2 Trunk Road.

The alternative route is via Dover Road, A258 Castle Hill Road, Deal Road, Hangman's Lane, The Lane and Dover Road.

UPPER ROAD will be closed from 22 March 2012 for up to 2 nights.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the bridge over the A2 Jubilee Way.

The alternative route is via A258 Deal Road, Dover Road, High Street, Reach Road and Upper Road

The planned work times are from 8.00 pm until 6.00 am each night, with the roads re-opened during the days, with traffic controlled by temporary traffic lights.

GLEN ROAD, KINGSDOWN, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway pre-patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Glen Road, Kingsdown, Deal, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Carlton Road and Sea Road.

The alternative route is via Carlton Road, Edward Road and Sea Road.

STRAND STREET, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Strand Street, Sandwich, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Potter Street and Harnet Street.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Strand Street, Ash Road, A256 Sandwich By-Pass and Ramsgate Road.

The One-Way Traffic Order in respect of Strand Street will be suspended between the junctions with Potter Street and High Street, for access only.

A260 THE STREET, DENTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A260 The Street, Denton, on or after 24 March 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Denton Lane and Agester Lane.

There will be no access for through traffic between Hawkinge and the A2.

The alternative route is via A260 Canterbury Road, Oak Hill, Swanton Lane, Lydden Hill, A2 Dover Road, (Old Dover Road in reverse), A260 Canterbury Road.

HIGHWAYS - East Kent

VARIOUS ROADS, EAST KENT (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow maintenance works to be carried out in safety on high speed roads, Kent County Council intends to make an Order imposing a temporary mandatory speed limit of 50 mph on the dual carriageway roads shown below, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 1 year.

The roads affected are as shown below.

A299 THANET WAY - from the M2 Brenley Corner Roundabout to B2190 Minster Road roundabout

A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, THANET - from the A299 Thanet Way to Seamark Road, Birchington

A256 DOVER ROAD - from the junction with the A2 to the Dover Road Roundabout

A256 SANDWICH BYPASS - from Stoner Cut Bridge to the A257 Sandwich Road Roundabout

LYDDEN HILL, LYDDEN, DOVER - from the junction with Swanton Lane to the junction with the A2

A2042 ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, ASHFORD

- From the A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road to Roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres from the Forestall Meadow Roundabout
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres south of the roundabout with the B2229 Norman Road

A20 FOUGERES WAY, ASHFORD - from the A20 Maidstone Road (Drovers Roundabout) to the roundabout at Junction 9 of the M20

A20 MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD - From Orchard Heights Roundabout to the junction with Sandyhurst Lane.

This Order is in force on the respective roads when the relevant signs are displayed on site.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

KING STREET, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY) TRAFFIC ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council Has made an Order to Temporally suspend the current one way traffic on King Street, Gravesend from its junction with Parrock Street and Windmill Street and for New Road from Windmill Street to Princes Street.

The Order will become effective on19th March 2012 will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; and last 7 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Parrock Street, Lord Street, Windmill Street, Woodville Place, Wrotham Road, Barrack Row, Clive Road, Darnley Road, Barth Street, West Street, Church Street and New Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway and footway patching works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(BOARLEY LANE, BOXLEY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Boarley Lane between Sandling Lane and The Old Mill House on or after Monday 19th March 2012 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Boarley Lane, Grange Lane, Boxley Road, Sandling Lane.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for drainage improvements. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alastair Coleman on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(FAIRBOURNE LANE, HARRIETSHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Fairbourne Lane between Fairbourne Mill and Bramble Cottage on or after Thursday 22nd March 2012 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Lenham Road, Chegworth Road, A20 Ashford Road.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for replacing low voltage poles and replace overhead conductors. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Susana Neves on 01342 306314.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(HEADINGLEY ROAD, ALLINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Headingley Road between Maxwell Drive and Allington Way on or after Saturday 24th March 2012 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Conway Road, A20 London Road, Allington Way.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Reynolds on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

COBDEN ROAD, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Cobden Road at the junction with Quakers Hall Lane.

The Order will become effective on 18th March 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 20th March 2012 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Quakers Hall Lane, St Johns Hill, Holly Bush Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the installation of a roof to a new development.

DARTFORD ROAD, FARNINGHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Dartford Road, Farningham from the Junction of High Street to Junction Main Road.

The Order will become effective on 07 April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 07 April 2012 and will last 1 day.These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Main Road and High Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a replacement BT cable.

MALTHOUSE ROAD, ASH CUM RIDLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Malthouse Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 2nd April 2012 and last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Pease Hill, Ash Lane, Hatcham Green Lane, Plaxtol Green Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a UK Power network cable.

SANDY LANE, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Sandy Lane, Sevenoaks between junction of Quakers Hall Lane and Hartsland Road.

The Order will become effective on 18 March 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 19 March 2012 and will last approx 2 weeks.These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Quakers Hall Lane and Hartsland Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate footway resurfacing works.

SEAL HOLLOW ROAD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Seal Hollow Road.

The Order will become effective on 18 March 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 19 March 2012 and will last for approx 8 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: A25 Seal Road, A225 St Johns Hill, A225 Dartford Road, B2019 Seal Hollow Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate repair to a stone wall.

VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF EASTBOUND TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting Eastbound vehicular traffic on Leydenhatch Lane and Newbarn Road Swanley for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 01 April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 02 April 2012 and will last approx 25 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Birchwood Road, London Road, Bartholomew Road and Swanley Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a safer working environment for all highway users.

YORKS HILL, SUNDRIDGE
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Yorks Hill, Sundridge between Ide Hill Road and Wheatsheaf Hill.

The Order will become effective on 18 March 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 02 April 2012 and will last approx 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ide Hill Road and Wheatsheaf Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electrical maintenance.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

CASTLE HILL AVENUE, FOLKESTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to connect a new water supply to a property re-development, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting southbound through traffic on Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 4 days, or until the works have been completed.

The southbound carriageway of the road will be closed between the junctions with Ingles Road and Bouverie Road West.

The alternative route is via Shorncliffe Road, Earls Avenue and Bouverie Road West.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Castle Hill Avenue will be suspended from the junction with Ingles Road to the point of closure, for access only.

STAPLE LANE, POSTLING
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow access to the carriageway for phone cable repair works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Staple Lane, Postling, on or after 20 March 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm each day.

The road will be closed between the junction with The Street / Pilgrims Way and Tupper Cottage.

The alternative route is via The Street, Cuckoo Lane, Sandling Road and Staple Lane.

Access will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so, but there may be times when this is not possible, due to the use of machinery.

TRINITY GARDENS, FOLKESTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of sewer repair works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Trinity Gardens, Folkestone, on or after 19 March 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Sandgate Road.

The alternative routes are via A2033 Sandgate Road, A259 Earl's Avenue and Bouverie Road West or A2033 Sandgate Road, Castle Hill Avenue and Bouverie Road West.

This closure is in conjunction with temporary traffic lights in Sandgate Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, HAWKINGE)
(WIDTH RESTRICTION) ORDER 2012

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce a 6''6' width restriction on the following roads:-

	Location	Proposal
1	Mill Lane, Hawkinge	For its entire length
2	St Deny's Road, Hawkinge	For its entire length
3	Old Rectory Close	For its entire length

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8DH, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Shepway District Council Offices, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Traffic Schemes Team, Kent County Council, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD or by email to traffic.schemes@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 9 April 2012

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

A2 HIGH STREET, NEWINGTON
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on the A2 High Street, Newington, from 2 April until 22 April 2012 inclusive, or until the works have been completed.

The A2 will be closed between the junctions with Playstool Road and Bull Lane.

The alternative motorway route is via A2 Keycol Hill, A249 Maidstone Road, M2 from Junction 5 to Junction 4, A278 Hoath Way, A2 London Road and A2 High Street.

The alternative route for non-motorway traffic is via A2 Keycol Hill, A249 Maidstone Road, Detling Hill, Sittingbourne Road, Bearsted Road, Penenden Heath Road, Sandling Lane, A229 Running Horse Roundabout, Chatham Road, Maidstone Road, A230 Horsted Way, Maidstone Road, A2 Best Street, Brookside, Union Street, New Road, Chatham Hill, Rainham Road, Watling Street, Sovereign Boulevard, Watling Street, London Road and High Street.

A 7.5 Tonne weight restriction (except for access) will be imposed on the following roads, when the relevant signage is in place:

Spade Lane, Mill Lane, Breach Lane, Lower Hartlip Hill, Playstool Road, Church Lane, Bull Lane, Callaways Lane and Rook Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

EDGAR ROAD, MARGATE
(RESTRICTIONS ON WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting waiting on Edgar Road, Margate, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 days, or until the works have been completed.

Waiting will be prohibited between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm on the sections of Edgar Road as follows:

On the west side from the existing double yellow lines near the junction with Ethelbert Crescent to the existing double yellow lines outside St Paul's Church

On the east side from existing double yellow lines near the junction with Ethelbert Crescent to the existing double yellow lines outside number 35 (Surrey Court).

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(ROBIN HOOD LANE & TUNBURY AVENUE, AYLESFORD)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Robin Hood Lane between Fostington Way and Tunbury Avenue and to prevent traffic turning right into Tunbury Avenue from A2045 Walderslade Woods on or after Tuesday 3rd April 2012 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for Robin Hood Lane is via Tunbury Avenue, A2045 Walderslade Woods, Fostington Way and for the no right turn into Tunbury Avenue is via A2045 Walderslade Woods to the roundabout and return on A2045 Walderslade Woods and turn left into Tunbury Avenue.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to facilitate planing, resurfacing and application of high friction surfacing and to install ducting in the carriageway. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Andy Padgham on 08458 247 800

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(SANDY LANE, IGHTHAM)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Sandy Lane from Ismays Road to Back Lane on or after Thursday 5th April 2012 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Back Lane, Ismays Road.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for poling works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Mandy Richards of Ashtead Plant Hire Company Ltd on 03700 500792.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(B2016 SEVEN MILE LANE, OFFHAM)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on B2016 Seven Mile Lane from Highlands House to Mereworth Lawn on or after Thursday 22nd March 2012 for one night between 21:00hrs - 05:00hrs, two days between 09:30hrs - 15:00hrs and one night between 21:00hrs - 05:00hrs or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A20 London Road, A228 Ashton Way/King Hill/Malling Road.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to carry out carriageway resurfacing. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(WATERMAN'S LANE, BRENCHLEY)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Waterman's Lane on or after Monday 19th March 2012 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Mile Oak Road, Mascall's Court Lane, Mascall's Court Road.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to re-build a culvert. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Steve Lambert on 08458 247 800.

John Burr
Director Kent Highways
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 18th March 2012**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150

BIRTHS

BLACKMAN

Sarah and Michael would like to announce the arrival of their new son, born 04 March 2012.

FIELD

Kelly and Leighton Field welcome their new daughter and little sister Evie May to the family. Born on11 February 2012.

KEMP

Nathen Kemp and Stacy Macartney are proud to announce the birth of their son Noah Andrew Hunter Kemp born on 20th February 2012 at Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother hospital Margate weighing 8lb 3oz

LANGRIDGE

Kayleigh and Ryan Langridge celebrate the birth of their son Ethan James Michael Langridge on 24th February 2012

RIGDEN

Mark and Christy Rigden are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Cobie Blue Rigden Born 20th February 2012 at the Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother hospital, Margate Weighing 5lb 15oz

SARBU

Cezar and Raluca are glad to announce that Adrian Philip was born on 7th March 2012.

VAN DER WEIDE

Nick and Amy celebrate the birth of their twin girls Charlotte Summer and Poppy Isabelle born on 12th February 2012.

DEATHS

ATKINS

Joan Atkins died peacefully on 21st February 2012. Funeral service at Farningham Church at 11am on 26th March. Family flowers only. Donations made payable to Great Ormond Street Hospital may be sent to 8 Russett Close, Aylesford ME20 7PL.

AUSTEN

Richard (Dick) Austen passed away 7th March 2012 Aged 52. Funeral is on 19th March 3.20pm at Charing Crematorium, followed by Ashford Hockey Club. Family flowers only please, charitable donations to Pilgrims Hospice, Cancer Research & Ashford Hockey Club

KITCHENER

Henry Lewis Kitchener on 21st February 2012, aged 81. Dearly loved father of Paul and Chris. Funeral service at Barham Crematorium at 1.20pm on 20th March 2012. Family flowers only, but donations may be made.

PARMENTER

Doreen (Billie) Parmenter died peacefully on 4th March 2012 aged 92. Dearly loved mother of Ian, Laurence and Simon, grandmother of Daniel, Alan and Lois.



More than half a century after its west Kent birth, Subbuteo is back

SEE PAGE 45



IN YOUR DREAMS

View the astonishing homes that just might fulfil your every wish

SEE PAGE 53

Kent Weekend

Crazy days



It's thank you and good night from The Osmonds

SEE PAGE 50

PLUS: The best restaurant way out east? One reviewer thinks he may have found it - **food and drink p46** How to transform your precious outdoor space - **property p52** Audi gives its A4 a swish makeover - **driving p61**







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RETURN MATCH

Subbuteo

Tabletop favourite gets a reboot

For generations, dads and sons alike could re-create the thrills of football through the finger-flicking fun of Subbuteo. Now, after years away from our toy shops, it's back. By **Nick Ames**.

AN ICONIC game invented in Kent is getting a 21st-century revamp as Subbuteo table-football this weekend hits the stores again.

The first three teams from the Premier League to be made available for 'flick to kick' fans are Premiership giants Chelsea, Liverpool and Manchester United.

Under agreements between the clubs and manufacturer Paul Lamond Games, all are officially-licensed products, with squad numbers and shirt-sponsor logos on each player.

England, Scotland and Republic of Ireland teams are also available, and more are promised as the 2012-13 season starts,

Toy stores and branches of Waterstones are among the stockists of a game once billed as "the replica of Association Football" and in which players flick small figures on semi-circular bases to propel a ball into a plastic goal.

Rules follow football regulations as closely as possible – even offside is a factor. And this year the tabletop game will have its own World Cup, with matches taking place in the plush facilities of Manchester City's Etihad Stadium.

The new hi-tech 'footballers', which can be made to spin and swerve, are a far cry from the earliest form of the game.

Its name is derived from *Falco subbuteo* – a bird of prey more commonly known as the hobby – and was coined by its creator Peter Adolph, of Langton Green, near Tunbridge Wells.

Sets first became available in 1947 and consisted of goals made of wire with paper nets, a ball made of cellulose and two teams of cardboard players, one in red shirts with white shorts, and their opponents in blue shirts with white shorts. These two-dimensional figures had to be inserted into bases made from buttons weighed down with lead washers.

No pitch was provided – instead chalk was provided, along with instructions on how to turn an old army blanket into a playing surface.

Later variations saw increasingly-detailed and intricately-painted plastic players and a huge number of accessories, including fans, stands, floodlights and such oddities as a St John's Ambulance team with a stretcher.



Picture: PAUL JERREAT



Picture: TUNBRIDGE WELLS MUSEUM



Picture: TUNBRIDGE WELLS MUSEUM

UP IN ARMS: Clockwise from left: the new-look players; the Tunbridge Wells factory where the first models were made; and the stars of yesteryear

Every major club strip was re-created, although individual teams were not identified until the last years of the game's popularity in the 1990s.

Richard Wells is sales director of the company behind the relaunch.

He said: "The initial market is undoubtedly going to be dads. I'm a father myself and wanted to introduce it to my sons, so I think we shall see fathers buying it for their children and kids buying it for their dads.

"We realise children won't immediately put down their computers and start playing table-football. But, of course, we hope the younger people fall in love with it just as their parents did."

The relaunch also sees a range of generic team strips, a referee and spare balls available, along with the officially-licenced club sides.

Further teams, most likely Spurs, Arsenal, Manchester City, Celtic and Rangers, will be available in August when the company finalises its agreements with the clubs over matters such as exact strips and correct shirt-sponsors. Others will follow over the next couple of years.

Although individual stars are not exactly represented, each team has multi-racial players and a range of hairstyles. The bases have also been improved to make the players more manoeuvrable and they are also far more sturdy – the older plastic models were prone to being snapped.

Wells said: "Subbuteo was always a great game, and it remains a great game. In fact it is now much better. The quality of the playing area is vastly superior and the production techniques used mean there is a far wider range of players – some even wear different-coloured boots."

In its heyday the game was a part of popular culture – for example, pop-punk band The Undertones referenced it in My Perfect Cousin.

Curator Ian Beavis said: "Subbuteo is a very popular local invention and people of a certain age have fond memories of playing it, so it is very pleasing to see it back."

• A display featuring the origins of the game is on show at Tunbridge Wells Musuem, open Monday-Saturday from 9.30am-5pm and Sunday from 10am-4pm.

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FOOD & **DRINK** **Flavours of Kent**

To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

Don't head for the brightest lights when you're in search of the best

STURRY hosts what must be one of the less bustling high streets in the land. That much was evident on the Saturday evening I strolled through with a guest, passing precisely no one.

Given, however, the atmosphere that can hang over such places at such times, this is perhaps no bad thing. And, truth be told, there is not an abundance of venues to draw folk, of any disposition, to Sturry high street after dark.

A fast-food takeaway and mini-supermarket, in fact, are pretty much the sum of it. That and possibly the finest restaurant in east Kent.

Its name is Kathton House, a pleasantly understated venue that doesn't bellow claims of greatness or force itself on the collective psyche other than through the quality of its food.

Which is, quite simply, excellent.

Neither overly complex nor unimaginatively familiar, our meals could not have been faulted at any point during our visit, which was a joyous experience in every way.

The presentation was exquisite, the service friendly and warm (I was even offered a pair of glasses as, still in denial over my failing eyesight, I struggled with the menu) and the surroundings genial.

Feeling instantly at ease, we got under way

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**



with some excellent bread before our starters really had the show on the road. My warm smoked duck breast salad with raspberry dressing was exquisite. I'm a fan of both duck and raspberry, so perhaps a combination of the two was never going to go wrong, but we all know life is rarely that simple...

My companion's selection of caramelised shallot, beetroot, French bean and dolce latté cheese salad with balsamic vinegar dressing was, given the wider array of ingredients, perhaps more vulnerable to a mismatch. Again, though, the result was a total success.

An excellent and manageable choice of main courses (with strong vegetarian options) gave only one problem: which to choose? I went for roast rack of Monkshill Farm lamb in rosemary and redcurrant jus served with potato Anna.

Top-quality meat in a lovely sauce was complemented perfectly by a first for me... potato Anna, which, for those who don't know, is layered potato cooked in butter (think potato Dauphinoise without the cream).

My companion wanted fillets of John Dory in dill and saffron sauce with sautéed new potatoes... with no dill. Fortunately, and rightly, it was possible to drop it. Happy days.

Dessert was forced rhubarb, crème patissiere tartlet served with stem ginger ice-cream (her) and Cointreau parfait with orange and mango salad (me). Both were brilliant, mine in particular a riotous explosion of taste.

At this point I must confess to a little unease with what has just gone before. During the course of my many reviews, I have been unfailingly honest, sparing no sensitivities when necessary. So, reading this unrestrained eulogy, I wonder if I've lost that necessary edge. But no, I haven't... I simply couldn't find fault.

Dave Mairs

• The two-course dinner menu is priced at £33.50 per person, with three courses £40.50.

■ **Kathton House, 6 High Street, Sturry CT2 0BD (telephone: 01227 719999)**

FARMERS' MARKETS

DARTFORD: The farmers' market is held in the pedestrian area of Dartford high street and open to the public between 10am and 2pm on the third Friday of the month. Produce available includes meat, bread, plants and preserves.

MERSHAM: A market is now held at the Farriers Arms, Mersham Forstal, between 2.30pm and 6.30pm on every second and fourth Friday of the month, featuring top-quality produce. It is a newcomer to the increasing number of markets but is proving very popular.

HORSMONDEN: Horsmonden farmers' market, held every other Friday, has some 20 stalls, covering a range of produce including meat, game, poultry, eggs, cheese, fruit and vegetables, bread, jams and pickles, honey, prepared pies, pastries, cakes and bakes.

BRIDGE: The market at the Red Lion Inn, Bridge, on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month aims to give shoppers the opportunity to buy high-quality, nutritious, fresh local food and drink which contributes to their well-being and protects their environment.

HYTHE: Hythe farmers' market was established in March 2004 and is now located in the Methodist church hall, between Chapel Street and Prospect Road. It is open on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 10am to midday.

ELHAM: The Elham market is held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month in the Rose and Crown pub, from 10am to midday. It offers a selection of fruit and vegetables, eggs, cheese, fresh meat, bread, cakes, honey, jams and wine.

■ **For more information on farmers' markets around the county, visit www.farmersmarkets.org.uk**





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KENT ATTRACTIONS

Meet new kids on the block

Star goats

Beech Court Gardens, Challock
From Sunday, March 18
01233 740735
www.beechcourtgardens.co.uk



TWO young goats, Fred and Wilma, are awaiting visitors to Beech Court Gardens for the season's start this weekend.
The nine-month-old pair, who can be petted and fed by children, are from the Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund, which is a lifeline for many animals.
Beech Court visitors can also see rare-breed chickens wandering the 10 acres of gardens that surround a 15th-century farmhouse.
Spring heralds a show of daffodils, followed by rhododendrons, azaleas and viburnums, which give way to climbing roses in June. The summer brings herbaceous plants and an impressive collection of hydrangeas.
The site dates back to Saxon times, suggested by the discovery of Roman swords and artefacts, and the house dates back to 1415.
The gardens are open from Saturday to Thursday between 10.30am and 5.30pm. Entry is £5 for adults and £1 for children.

An age-old love story

Verdi's La Traviata gets the full works

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
Sunday, March 25, 7.30pm
01322 220000
www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

A TRAGIC tale of passion and memorable music, La Traviata is Verdi's interpretation of one of the most popular love stories of the 19th century, La Dame Aux Camelias.
The award-winning opera- and ballet-producer Ellen Kent brings the new production of Verdi's La Traviata, featuring the Ukrainian National Opera of Kharkiv, including soprano Maria Tsonina, in the lead role of Violetta.
The highlights include the Brindisi, the best-known drinking song in opera, the duet Un Di Felice and Violetta's haunting aria Addio Del Passato.
With a full orchestra, stunning sets and costumes, this is one performance opera fans should not miss.
Tickets cost £25.50, £28.50 and £33.50. Groups of 10 or more can get 20 per cent off, while pre-show dining is available before the show.



Celebrate country life

Game and equine fest

Kent County Showground, Detling
Saturday and Sunday, March 24-25
01392 421500; www.contour.uk.net

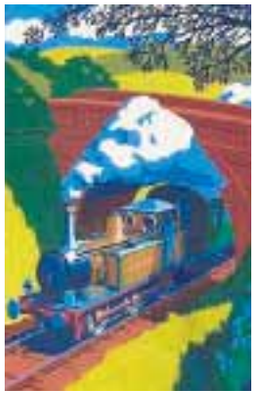
IT is that time of year again for the Kent Game And Equine Festival at Detling.
This year the outdoor Supreme Equine Arena will feature an Australian Horsemanship parade and a fast-paced Pony Club Horse & Hound showjumping challenge.
Events include a BASC shooting school, gundog scurries, terrier and lurcher shows, fly-casting demonstrations, archery, falconry, racing ferrets and the Game Cookery Theatre.
A countryside and equestrian shopping village will be hosting more than 100 retail outlets.

Railway art

... but not just for train buffs

Historic Dockyard, Chatham
Opens Saturday, March 31
01634 823815
www.thedockyard.co.uk

THE Historic Dockyard in Chatham, famous for its steam and diesel locomotives, will be presenting an eclectic collection of artwork from The Guild Of Railway Artists, including leading wildlife artist David Shepherd.
The RailArt exhibit will be shown in the No 1 Smithery from Saturday, March 31, until the end of May.
The Dockyard Trust's Alex Patterson said: "We are thrilled. The dockyard, and in particular our award-winning No 1 Smithery, is an appropriate venue for such significant works of art.
"These evocative pictures explore a variety of styles and themes that will appeal to not only railway enthusiasts but to the wider public."





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DICKENS WORLD EVENTS



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Next shows - Wed 21st March & Wed 11th April
For more information visit www.dickensworld.co.uk or call 01634 890421





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The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (12A)
The Hunger Games (tbc)
The Devil Inside (15)
This Means War (12A)
The Muppets (U)
The Women in Black (12A)
DIGITIAL
We Bought a Zoo (PG)
21 Jump Street (15)
The Hunger Games (tbc)

ODEON KIDS
Horrid Henry - The Movie 2D (U)
SENIOR SCREEN
My Week with Marilyn (15)
NEWBIES
We Bought a Zoo (PG)
OTHER CINEMA
The Well Digger's Daughter (12A)

For times and films, please call the film line on 0871 22 44 007 or visit www.odeon.co.uk

For all Dickens World information and online bookings, go to www.dickensworld.co.uk or call 01634 890421

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Holiday parks and homes

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Both options have their own great advantages.

Parks provide a huge amount of amenities on site, making it easy to relax after a day of sightseeing, shopping, bathing or just wandering through the ever-changing landscape.

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Pictures: PAUL JERREAT

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Holiday parks have become a distinctive part of the Kent landscape, with Sheppey, the north Kent coast and parts of Romney Marsh some of the most popular areas.

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ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT



Sandwich Leisure Ltd.

Sandwich Leisure Holiday Park is family owned and run, and has a five star Tourist Board rating and Gold David Bellamy Conservation Awards. Our park is just a 5 minute walk from the picturesque, historic Cinque Port town of Sandwich with beautiful old buildings and fascinating waterfront, curio shops, pubs, restaurants Bistros, Banks, Post Office, Baker, Butcher, Co-Op, Hardware Store, Doctors , Dentist all on the doorstep, with good bus and train links to the local area, a real Hidden Gem. Alternatively, visit our sister Park, Manston Court Caravan Park.

Set in some ten level acres of secluded, well maintained grounds, our picturesque Manston Court caravan & camping park is ideally located near Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate within Kent, the Garden on England. The Isle of Thanet offers the traditional delights of Kentish seaside towns, from the Turner Contemporary Arts Centre in Margate to Dickensian Broadstairs, Viking Bay & Ramsgate's Royal Harbour, with Whitstable and its famous Oysters a short drive down the coast.

We ***do not*** have a clubhouse, we ***do not*** have a Pool and we ***do not*** have packs of bored feral teenagers. We ***do have*** peace and quiet, beautiful scenery, we are pet friendly, and we even have our own resident ducks on site. We are ideally situated only an hour's drive from the Dartford Crossing, twenty minutes from

Canterbury and close to the ports of Dover and Ramsgate which offer easy access to France and Europe.

We have holiday homes from £10,000.00 to £90,000.00 available to buy, offering quality, affordable alternatives to holidays abroad. No queuing, no airport taxes, security checks, just turn up and put the kettle on or open the wine!

For more information and full details of our Parks, please visit our website at caravansandcampingkent.co.uk or telephone 01304 612681.



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www.ParkHolidays.com/seaviewsales

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...New Romney Caravan Park



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If you want to relax, unwind and enjoy the great outdoors then New Romney Caravan Park is just for you. In a quiet and peaceful spot just 300 yards from the beach, New Romney Caravan Park is everything that's wonderful about a family holiday by the sea.

For more information telephone 01797 362247

New Romney Caravan Park, Clark Road, Greatstone, New Romney TN28 8PB

www.newromneycaravanpark.co.uk

New Romney Caravan Park is situated on the South Kent coast in a quiet and peaceful spot just 300 yards from the sea. The Park is a family owned which offers a safe and family friendly environment. Also accessible to Olympics and Diamond Jubilee events, New Romney Caravan Park is everything that's wonderful about a family caravan holiday by the sea.

The Park is gated, well laid out with lots of space between the holiday caravans, with a small community clubhouse and adventure play area. Well behaved dogs are welcome and there is a good size dog walking area.

If you want to relax and unwind and enjoy the great outdoors then New Romney Caravan Park is right for you. The Park has won the coveted Gold Bellamy Award no less than 7 years running and takes pride in raising awareness of the natural environment to its visitors.

The Park offers rental caravans for short breaks or a full family holiday and many holidays throughout the year are at 2011 prices or less. Caravan holiday homes are designed with all home comforts as part of the package and are perfect for both couples and larger families.

For those who want even more and the flexibility to get away whenever they want the Park always has a great selection of both new and used caravans for sale with prices starting from only £8995 ready to move into! A holiday home at New Romney Caravan Park will give you years of family pleasure and many happy memories.

New Romney Caravan Park is proud of the service they provide to both individual caravan owners and holidaymakers alike.

So if you have been thinking about owning a holiday caravan of your own, or a holiday by the sea, now is an excellent time to spot a bargain. Why not give them a call or have a look around soon. Or perhaps visit the new coffee shop opening this season. The friendly team at New Romney Caravan Park will be delighted answer your questions or show you this tranquil park and the holiday homes that are available.

Call 01797 362247 or see www.newromneycaravanpark.co.uk

STAGE & **ARTS**

To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

The Osmonds
The brothers' final UK tour

Winter Gardens, Margate
Tuesday, March 20, at 7.30pm
01843 296111
margatewintergardens.co.uk

FOR more than five decades The Osmonds have been entertaining crowds across the globe and this year marks their biggest-ever UK Tour.
Fans will journey through their many unforgettable hits, including One Bad Apple, Down By The Lazy River, Love Me For A Reason and the rocky Crazy Horses.
And then, of course, there's the 1972 No 1 hit for Jimmy, Long Haired Lover From Liverpool.
"We truly want this tour to be a great big thank-you to all our fans for their love and support through the years," said Jimmy.
"This final tour takes us all around the UK and allow us to get up close and personal with our fans – we can't wait."
The group recorded 200 albums, selling 100 million copies worldwide.
Tickets are priced from £27.50.



Rock comedy
Steve Hughes coming solo

Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Saturday, March 17
01892 678678

FOLLOWING sell-out shows at the Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne comedy festivals and stellar performances on Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow (BBC One), Australian comic Steve Hughes will be embarking on his long-awaited debut solo tour in 2012.
The show, Big Issues, takes in 42 dates, including a show at the Trinity Theatre.
Hughes joined Reginald D Hunter as a special guest on his mammoth nationwide tour playing to tens of thousands of people nationwide during 2011.
A former heavy-metal drummer, Hughes quickly made a name for himself as a highly-opinionated and provocative performer.
See www.trinitytheatre.net for more details.



Amazing, living iPod
Derek Paravacini

The Tower Theatre, Folkestone
Saturday, March 31, at 8pm
01303 223 925
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

THE amazing Derek Paravicini has been described as a living iPod offering a data bank of music in his mind ready to be performed to a live audience.
The virtuoso pianist was born blind and is also autistic, but his musical wizardry has made him the focus of several TV programmes including the documentary Extraordinary People.
From Bach to boogie-woogie, you name it and Paravicini can play it. He has already been called to play with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and at Downing Street for the Prime Minister.
He is equally brilliant in any key and any music genre and takes random requests as proof.
Tickets are priced at £15.

Don't skip the seaside beat
Rizzle Kicks

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
Monday, May 7
0844 8713015
www.atgtickets.com

HARLEY Alexander-Sule and Jordan Stephens, aka Rizzle Kicks, are two of the most exciting young musicians in the UK right now.
Their debut single Down With The Trumpets sold 250,000 copies and stayed in the top 10 for a month.
The duo have already been nominated for three MOBO Awards and featured on the No 1 single Heart Skips A Beat with Olly Murs.
They describe their debut LP as a mix of pop and old hip-hop and have already taken this year's Brits by storm.
Following such an electric start to their career, the pair are widely expected by those in the know to have a very productive 2012.
Tickets for their Folkestone gig are priced at £13.50.



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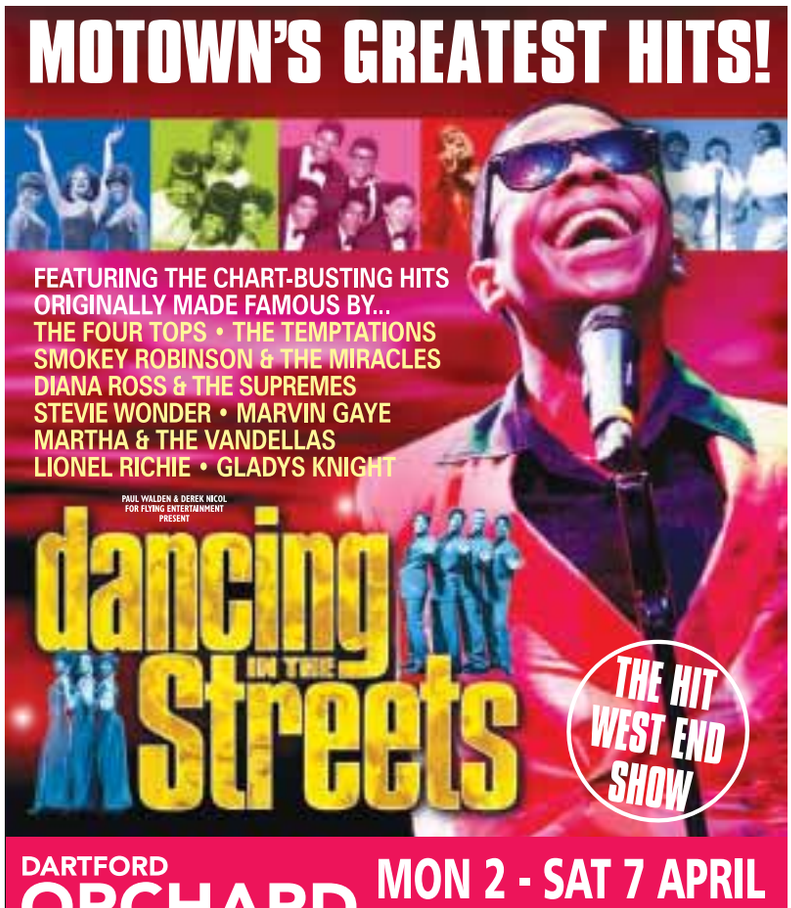




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MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

ALICE 18yr old tall blonde carefree student, looking for exciting male 18-30 for good times only. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387107**

HI I'm Jo, petite, pretty, fed up with own company, seeking male to help me get back into the swing of things, for uncomplicated fun times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387103**

DEBBIE slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387101**

CHARLIE young 37yr old blonde attractive nurse, OHAC, no ties, new to the area and dating scene, looking to find love with genuine available male, 25-42 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387051**

LAURA single female 22yrs, blonde, blue eyes, very attractive with curvy figure, WLTM older male for fun times only. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387049**

TASHA single working mum seeks light hearted man, 35-45 who also likes to enjoy life to the full for passion, romance and tlc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387047**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

BLACK female, 33, single mum, loving, honest, caring, kind, seeks professional, kind, honest male, 34-44. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387565**

29YR old female, 3 children, smoker, size 16-18, bubbly, outgoing, likes a laugh, cuddles, seeking likeminded male for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387463**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, medium build, 49, bubbly, looking for male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386401**

LYNETTE 60, South African, new to area, N/S, sociable, like the outdoors, looking for new friends. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386387**

32YR old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309**

BECKY 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTM Mr Right if he is out there? ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305**

JENNY very feminine attractive mature classy female with beautiful blue eyes, looking for male to enjoy plenty of laughs and get to know. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386303**

JUNE good looking divorced 40's female, bubbly romantic and looking for tlc. Genuine replies only pls. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386301**

SUE young looking vivacious female with great sense of humour, OHAC, independent, interesting, seeking single tactile male. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386275**

DEBS 38 green eyed sophisticated blonde, attractive size 12, not looking for anything long term or steady just fun with intelligent male, 30-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386273**

FEMALE 58, 5ft 1ins, hazel eyes, cuddly, caring, likes animals, drink, good food, seeks likeminded male to share life with. Is that you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383669**

LYNDA very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386653**

KERRY blonde blue eyed cultured lady, very genuine, caring, seeking caring natured male 45-58 for loving romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386649**

HI I'm Jane a 40yr old divorcee with 3 children, looking to fall in love again, seeks genuine, confident, very tactile male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386643**

TINA new to this and a bit nervous, lonely blue eyed 30yr old looking for male companion 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386625**

SARA 31 tall and single, lovely green eyes, outgoing and social WLTM tall down to earth stable male for poss LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386623**

BLACK female, 35, GSOH, caring, loving, kind, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376611**

CLAIRE 38 blue eyes, blonde, looking for professional gent up to 50yrs LTR. Call me to meet up for a casual drink and chat. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380881**

FEMALE likes coast walks, shopping, gardening, countryside, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381463**

HEATHER 53, brown eyes, size 14, likes nights in/out, socialising, gardening, travel, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387257**

VALERIE looking for genuine male for nights out and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387173**

CLARE attractive, petite, size 8, brown hair, blue eyes, likes theatre, walks, shopping, seeks genuine male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385673**

KEELY blonde 18yr old, blue eyes size 10, stays at home too much and looking for fun male with OHAC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385377**

EMMA pretty 30yr old Scottish lassie, new to the area and looking for some nice company, give me a call and we can take it from there. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385373**

GEM 24, slim blonde with blue eyes, single mum of one, extremely easy-going, WLTM genuine male for LTR. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385369**

DIANE single fit female, no children, OHAC, lots of free time, looking for a nice man to get to know and hopefully fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385351**

RUTH slim funny 18yr old brunette who loves cuddles seeks genuine guy for friendship leading to more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385349**

SUSIE 45, 5ft 8ins, student, outgoing, easygoing, likes the outdoors, museums, theatre, socialising, seeks likeminded male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389716**

IVY May tall, slim, voluptuous, seeking older, generous, kind, caring male, 75-80 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385505**

TIA 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic for relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382081**

WENDY enjoys most things in life and is up for anything, whatever you fancy? I'm willing to give it a go! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382079**

SUE 53, slim, blue eyes, likes football, animals, seeks N/S male, 45-55 for loving, lasting relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386247**

SHARON 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

LOOKING to start the New Year of with a bang? Faye open minded 20yr old female just looking for fun times. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383045**

LONELY lady, retired nurse, 68, likes country/western music, nights in/out, GSOH, seeking male of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385835**

CARING affectionate female, 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, seeks male, 60-70 with GSOH for friendship/companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384871**

MAISY seeks male who likes dogs, country walks, beach, meals out and knows there own mind for a relationship and to build memories, fun loving lady 47. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383733**

SHARON 37yr old attractive feminine size 10, employed, OHAC, single mum of one, seeking similar lonely male with mature outlook. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385655**

DEBS slim attractive stylish 40 looking for male who is prepared to give me lots of attention for fun times in return. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385653**

JEAN professional nurse attractive and all women! loves wining and dining seeking white knight who appreciates a real black beauty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385651**

JAN genuinely attractive voluptuous sensual female looking for companionship with loving man, 35-65yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385597**

JULIE blonde blue eyed outgoing female, 31yrs, seeking laidback relationship with likeminded affectionate male, any age/looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385595**

RONNIE 39 looking for fun loving bit on the side! must have a GSOH and own home, I will provide the entertainment! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385593**

SANDRA 63, varied interests, cinema, walks, animals, meals out, N/S, social drinker, cuddly, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385315**

MARY 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

CAROL alone on a Saturday night with a bag of chips, what am I doing? Sick of being single and looking for a male who can handle a good women. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383119**

SHARON 5ft 7ins, slim blonde, attractive, funny, good job, nice home, sports car, well educated/travelled, newly single and looking for love. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383113**

ERIN attractive petite divorcee with own home, looking for nights in/out, friendship and maybe more with mature male. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383111**

ALEX attractive professional, separated, no ties, OHAC, seeks similar romantic male for love, companionship and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383049**

MARIA 47, curly blonde hair, 5ft 6ins, size 14, GSOH, likes reading, walks, WLTM kind, friendly, fun loving gent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380509**

MARY 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, fun loving, likes nights in/out, seeks male with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385239**

KEIRA 34yr old very attractive female, fed up of staying in alone, looking for likeminded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384055**

JO bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, dvds, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337**

LOOKING for a nice soul mate, dinners, drinks, walks, someone who enjoys life, I am optimistic, happy, fun, cuddly, slim, red hair, enjoy good food, working out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379865**

KERRY 32yr old single mum of one, ready to move on with a new relationship, WLTM genuine male for dates, text fun and more. Pls Call. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383901**

SUE long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380853**

KAZ 32yr old intellectual mixed race female, likes gym, meals in/out, seeks reliable, honest male, 38-58yrs to get to know for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376591**

NATALIE blonde blue eyed nurse, 39yrs medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376589**

AUDREY recently widowed, seeks lonely gent for friendship and conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381213**

SHARON 50, widowed, looking for nice gent to take out to theatre, cinema, country walks and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384497**

CARING genuine single mum, GSOH, 41, looking for genuine male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384349**

NIAMH slim attractive female, well travelled and body confident, seeking mature male who can handle a real women. Or at least thinks he can. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384051**

KIM 37, slim blue eyed brunette, divorced with no ties, looking for a genuine convenient friendship/more. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384049**

SARA slim tall blonde bombshell, loves dancing, walking in the rain, WLTM genuine male loves life as much as I do. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384047**

IN for a Penny in for a Pound. Gorgeous curvy figured attractive brunette, bubbly, outgoing and fun, looking for confident romantic companion. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383907**

PAT 70's, 5ft, cuddly, seeks male for friendship and days out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369521**

JACKIE 48, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more, preferably a smoker. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368039**

STUNNING blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, WLTM uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369221**

AMANDA cuddly 36yr old easygoing caring lonely female just looking for love with nice guy, 30-55yrs. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375133**

ALICE 30's female, slim, lovely smile, not that happy at the moment but hoping you might change that, you've nothing to loose? Call me. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379201**

LISA blonde 31yrs, extremely fit and outgoing, seeking male for casual friendship with benefits. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380879**

TRISH tall slim brunette, honest, reliable, affectionate, OHAC, no ties, outgoing, loves Indian food, seeking male 39-50yrs for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380877**

CAROL attractive lady of leisure, solvent, OHAC, WLTM sincere gent willing to entertain and share all of life's indulgences with me. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380857**

EMMIE 28yr old lonely single mum all out of love, looking for good company with male who can tame a confident beautiful lady. Any looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381363**

LOVELY tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-va-voom! Seeks adventurous male who's up for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374159**

MARY fun loving brunette, seeking friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382689**

JO 28yr old Auburn haired beauty looking for a bit of fun back in her life, seeks male to make me smile again. Age/looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383899**

46YR old single mum, caring, loving, GSOH, seeks male for lasting relationship. Must like children. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385101**

CHRISTIAN 60yr old dog owner, likes countryside, culture, seeks likeminded kind man for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384989**

LOVELY lonely lady, fit and active, many interests, seeks N/S fun loving guy with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384951**

BERYL retired, looking for similar male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384635**

TRACY 39, fun blue eyed blonde, a little dizzy at times but a big bundle of fun, WLTM professional male for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384045**

Men Seeking

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

RICHARD 47, dark hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, loving, caring, easygoing, likes holidays, music, walks, countryside, seeks female, 34-64 for happy LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387711**

DANIEL 32 looking for fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390234**

ATTRACTIVE male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, likes the good things, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387635**

IAN 51, slight disability, likes singing, dancing, rock/roll, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387553**

SINGLE dad, 6ft, medium build, blue eyes, WLTM female, 30-40 to enjoy quality time, walks and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387551**

MALE 50, GSOH, looking for soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387485**

MARK 60, N/S, seeks romantic, understanding lady, 47-67 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387171**

MALE 44, slim, brown hair, enjoys life, GSOH, seeks female for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387149**

DAVID light hearted, positive, vibrant, has high expectation of what he can offer a woman, 30-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387121**

EASYGOING cheerful male, 64, 6ft, 13st, blue eyes, educated, romantic, seeks female, 47-57. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387087**

ROMANTIC understanding male, 62, white, N/S, caring, considerate, seeks black lady, 18-68 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387077**

MALE seeks female with GSOH for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389724**

ROBIN mid 50's, GSOH, open-minded, likes movies, cosy nights in, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389678**

MALE outgoing, what you see is what you get, seeks female for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389884**

PHIL 62, 6ft, medium build, tactile, seeking loving LTR with attractive, tallish lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386391**

GENUINE easygoing male, 55, seeks petite female, 45-50 for fun, friendship and good company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386383**

MALE 44, kind, honest, caring, blue eyes, dark hair, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386269**

CARING down to earth 57yr old male, OHAC, 5ft 9ins, slim, seeks slim lady for fun and more. Social smoker and likes a pint, how about you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386237**

SEAN likes nights out, seeks female for dates, fun times and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385457**

INTELLIGENT 1950's pleasant male, average height build, GSOH, solvent, kind, seeks female for LTR and soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387357**

FUN loving professional male, early 40's, level headed, likes wining/dining, seeks warm, sincere female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390104**

STEVE 63, retired, widow, honest, reliable, trustworthy, seeks female with similar outlook. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387329**

ATTRACTIVE white male, 38, seeks black/mixed race/Asian female, 26-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387317**

48YR old male, own business, medium build, average looks but big heart. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387313**

RICHARD dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, 47, slim-medium build, likes holidays, theatre, music, nights in, seeking female, 34-64 for happy LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387291**

GARY 48, 6ft, well built, dark hair, brown eyes, seeks passionate female for fun times in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387175**

MALE 57 seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385455**

Gay Seeking

KEVIN 5ft 10ins, gay, seeks similar male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387549**

64YR old male, seeks male 60-69 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390196**

MALE 42, clean shaven, seeks younger playmate for fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385465**

MIDDLE aged man, non scene, seeks male, any age for occasional meetings. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386419**

GAY man, 63, looking for N/S gay guy for meetings, outings, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386131**

18YR old gay male, seeking nice guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386097**

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Bovis extends the stamp-duty holiday

KENT housebuilder Bovis Homes has decided to extend the Government's stamp-duty holiday on its homes in the county by three months – and expand its scheme so it is not only first-time buyers who benefit.

The Government has called time on the holiday, which has allowed first-time buyers to avoid paying 1 per cent stamp duty on properties priced between £125,000 and £250,000, with the scheme ending next weekend.

However, Bovis Homes is keeping the holiday spirit alive at its developments at Chestnut Place in Ashford, Abbey Place in Minster and Meadowbank in Great Easthall Farm, Sittingbourne, with a new stamp-duty scheme that also includes owner-occupiers.

With the new purchase assistance initiative, the housebuilder is offering to pay the stamp duty on homes that are reserved in that price bracket from Sunday, March 25, as long as the purchase is completed by the end of June.

"The holiday has clearly proved popular with first-time buyers and we have had a surge of interest," said Bovis Homes marketing director Kevin Wilkins. "Taking advantage of this could represent a significant saving for the buyer – up to £2,500 – so there is a real incentive to get moving now and complete before the end of June."

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Transform your garden with a bamboo gazebo

By Gary Wright

BAMBOO is a remarkable material, and beautiful garden gazebos offer both a flavour of the Orient and a unique outdoor building.

They can be as small or as large as your garden demands and can be constructed as an outdoor bar, a home for your hot tub, a family room for meals... or simply a place for relaxation.



MJS is Britain's leading builder of bamboo gazebos and the company will be exhibiting at The Great British Home Show 2012 from Thursday, May 31, to Monday, June 4, at the South East's new £62 million exhibition centre, Glow.

For many customers, the gazebo becomes their favourite part of the home.

The enthusiasm of MJS's Peter Spencer for the gazebos is infectious as he talks about the unique garden buildings: "I started bringing in bamboo furniture from the Philippines in 2000 and after a couple of years I developed the gazebo after examining the material."

Bizarrely, the smoking ban was one of the inspirations behind this most attractive garden building.

"The gazebo is ideal for a smoking area where people can have a drink, eat and at the same time smoke as the structure is open and seats up to 10 people under cover – but still outside.

"We built them for pubs and restaurants, but then we began to get orders from people who wanted one in their own home. We came up with a range of designs to suit gardens of all sizes, and the real beauty is that the bamboo itself allows us to build exactly what people require."

Bamboo is a tough material used to build homes across southern Asia. As one of the strongest and most useful natural woods, it is hard-wearing while, importantly, retaining flexibility.

It is also one of the fastest-growing plants in the world – botanists have recorded one metre of growth in just 24 hours – and across east and south Asia it has been a vital part of the economy for building materials... and even food.

It is enormously durable and there are 70 types, but amazingly it is still a mystery to botanists. Some types of bamboo will not flower for many years – the longest gap is 130 years – and then all individuals flower within a few years, wherever they are in the world.

One of these unique gazebos, designed to your specification and built in your garden, costs far less than a conservatory and slightly more than a large garden shed.

To find out more, have a look at the MJS website http://mjs-trading.co.uk/ and of course you can visit MJS at The Great British Home Show 2012 at Glow, Bluewater, Kent.



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Dream Homes

Move on right side of the tracks with new seaside home



STATION Cottages in the seaside town of Walmer is the perfect place to be for anyone looking for a gem of a new home.

Tucked away, off the main road in a quiet spot by the station, these family-friendly detached homes are just waiting for a buyer to step forward.

Attractively designed to incorporate the architectural details of the local station, brick arches and detailing, arched windows and slate tiles all add to the appeal of these three-bedroom homes.

The living room and the kitchen/dining room have French doors leading on to the landscaped rear garden. Householders can choose whether to include an en-suite or have extra space in the master bedroom, and the bathrooms have stylish features included such as a marble basin stand in the main bathroom.

Wooden flooring, carpets and integrated appliances are all included.

The garden has a useful decked patio area, plus there are two parking spaces – all a new homeowner needs to do is unpack their suitcases and start enjoying life near the sea.

This quiet coastal town has long stretches of unspoilt shingle beaches, a good range of shops is close by and, of course, the station is on hand, with services to Dover, Ramsgate and Canterbury. London St Pancras is about an hour and 40 minutes away, with a change at Dover.

Nearby Deal still remains an unspoilt seaside resort where shoppers can buy fresh fish from the town's fishermen and there is also a variety of interesting shops to discover.

■ For more details, contact Ward and Partners at 18a High Street, Deal CT14 7AE (phone 01304 361420; email deal-web@wardandpartners.co.uk; web www.wardandpartners. co.uk)

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HOMES

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Housebuilder pleased as enticing offers see big hike in house sales

SALES of new properties in Kent are showing a marked upturn and Hillreed Homes has reported an increase in sales of 22 per cent over the same period last year.

Jo Richards, marketing and corporate manager at Hillreed, said: "We are experiencing a sort of 'spring' market earlier than usual in the selling calendar."

The company has put this down to the unusually mild weather that has brought eager buyers to sites... or maybe the enticing offers that Hillreed produces at this time of the year.

Hillreed emphasises that people who want to be part of this upsurge in property purchases should act now, with offers available such as a £10,000 discount for plot 104, the last remaining two-bedroom apartment at Greenway, Kings Hill.

This property is also 'turnkey' ready, so everything from beds and bedding to sofas and cutlery is included.



Or there is an option to benefit from a 15 per cent equity share on this property, which is priced at £192,950

There are two semi-detached, three-bedroom houses at the same location, each with a £10,000 discount, and opportunities for part-exchange exist on most properties at many Hillreed developments.

Hillreed says the positive figures are heartening and perhaps these are the 'green shoots' of economic recovery that the UK is looking for. If so, the company says buyers need to be quick if they want to secure a new property at an amazing price.

■ Go to www.hillreed.co.uk for further information on the spring sales and incentives, or call at the show homes, which are open seven days a week.





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*Based on a purchase price of £149,995. With the FirstBuy scheme you can purchase your new home for just 80% of the full value through a mortgage and minimum 5% deposit is required if the full value of the property. The outstanding balance is financed through an 'equity loan' funded by Kier Homes & the HCA, which is interest free for the first 5 years. The outstanding balance is paid back as a percentage of the Open Market Value after 25 years or subsequent re-sale, whichever occurs earliest. FirstBuy is available on selected properties only. Subject to status. Terms & conditions apply, please refer to your Sales Advisor for more details. Prices correct at time of press. Travel times from google Maps & National Rail. Photography of Blue Quarter.

HOMES

To read this and other property stories visit our property blog @ homes24.co.uk ...or smartphone users can scan this QR code

Enjoy town-centre living on the riverside

THIS weekend Kier Homes will unveil the latest of its much-anticipated riverside show apartments at its Blue Quarter development in the centre of Maidstone.

The new apartment launches the latest and final phase of the development, which offers buyers the chance to experience the special ambience and beautiful views that come from living alongside the Medway and yet be just a stone's throw from the town centre.

Ideally situated in the centre of Maidstone, Blue Quarter is within an easy walk of the station and of the shops and restaurants, making the development a perfect location for anyone seeking a new home in the town.

The new two-bedroom show apartment is stunningly appointed and offers house-hunters two bathrooms, a separate kitchen and a large living room that opens on to a balcony overlooking the river.

Alexis Bissett, marketing manager at Kier Homes, said: "This weekend's launch represents the final phase of Blue Quarter. Once these apartments have gone, there won't be another chance to buy at this much sought-after development.

"I am delighted to say the combination of riverside views and the proximity of the town centre continues to prove popular with all our customers."

Anyone wanting to visit the new riverside show homes or who seeks further information can phone the Kier Homes team on 0800 883 8362 or visit kierhomes.co.uk.





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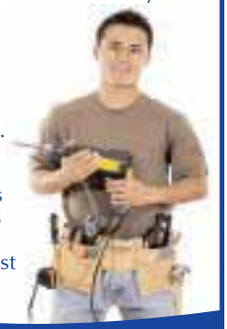
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Monaco Musical Fireworks

Escorted Rail Holiday from London, Ebbsfleet & Ashford

4 Days

Quote MR7-KOS

£459pp

7 July, 2012

Travelling by Eurostar train from London St Pancras, then the swift TGV to train to Nice on the French Riviera, the journey on this holiday promises to be as exciting as the places we will visit.

The TGV train heads effortlessly south through serene landscapes before encountering the alluring scenery of the Cote d'Azur - yacht-filled harbours, beaches, rocky inlets and millionaires' villas.

Our destination is Nice, the region's capital, where we spend 3 nights.

The pinnacle of the weekend is a day spent in neighbouring Monaco, taking in the famous sights including Monte Carlo Casino, Café de Paris and the old city on the Rock of Monaco. Our visit also takes in a spectacular Musical Fireworks display over Port Hercule Harbour.

At the end of the holiday we return to the UK by train from Nice.


Fireworks light up Monaco's Port Hercule harbour

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return Eurostar & TGV rail travel London St Pancras to Nice (from Ebbsfleet/Ashford on request)
- 3 nights hotel B&B in Nice
- Return coastal train Nice to Monaco

Highland Rail Inverness & Loch Ness

Escorted Holiday by Rail from London

6 days, half board

Quote RS6/9-KOS

£599pp

15 June & 6 Sept, 2012

This super holiday takes in one of the world's finest coast-to-coast railway journeys - Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh. Enjoy spectacular views from the train all the way. Passing Loch Carron, the railway clings to the rocky shoreline towards the Cuillin Hills and the Isle of Skye before reaching journey's end - the Kyle of Lochalsh. Our holiday starts at London Kings Cross where we join the train to Inverness. Also included is a cruise on Loch Ness.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return rail travel from London Kings Cross to Inverness
- 5 nights in the 3-star Royal Highland Hotel, Inverness with 5 breakfast & 5 dinners
- Rail excursion to the Kyle of Lochalsh
- Loch Ness cruise


The Kyle of Lochalsh railway


Loch Ness



Mamma Mia Party

For over 40s only

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village, Suffolk Coast

Self drive, 3 nights half board PLUS 99p Bar

Quote MP5-KOS

£99pp

25 to 28 May, 2012

Join us for a party where the name of the game is fun. We're reviving the 70s & 80s when Abba reigned supreme and their songs were on everyone's lips. We have organised a fabulous private party weekend featuring Mamma Mia the Movie and a top Abba Tribute Band playing live.

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village is situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. Enjoy a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9 hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. The recently refurbished chalets are all single storey and situated on level ground, in landscaped grounds just a short stroll from the main facilities and car parks. All chalets have TV, tea/coffee making facilities, heating, double glazing, en suite bath/shower & toilet, bed linen & towels. Included meals are taken in the buffet-style cafeteria with views over the grounds to the sea.

INCLUDED:

- Mamma Mia the Movie
- Top Abba Tribute band
- 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night
- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation with TV & tea/coffee-making facilities



Grand Burstin Hotel self-drive deals

Self drive, 3 or 4 nights, half board PLUS 99p Bar

From £119pp **Quote BRIT-KOS**

The Grand Burstin Hotel is superbly located on the seafront facing Folkestone harbour. The hotel is well-known for its entertainment programme featuring the best live acts in cabaret every night.

The health club has an indoor heated Swimming pool and sauna, as well as a state of the art gym (£4 per day payable at hotel). There is also a Games room with pool and football table. The hotel even organises day trips to France or Belgium including cross-channel transport (fee payable locally). All bedrooms are en-suite with TV and tea/coffee tray.

Hotel	Start date	Nights	Price pp
Grand Burstin, Folkestone	30 Apr; 7 May	4	£149
	13, 27 Apr; 18, 25 May	3	£119

INCLUDED:

- 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm nightly for house beers, wines, spirits & pumped mixers
- 3 or 4 nights stay with dinner & breakfast each day
- Nightly entertainment



Warner Lakeside Coastal Village Hayling Island

Self drive, 4 nights

Drinks Inclusive

Just for Adults

Quote LK4-KOS

£189pp WAS £309pp

23 to 27 April, 2012

Great views, a 20 minute walk to the beach, sea air and sea-faring attractions are all yours to enjoy during a stay at Lakeside on Hayling Island. With entertainment and FREE DRINKS every night; daytime activities and great facilities - an indoor swimming pool, bowls hall, 9 hole pitch and putt & more; delicious food and en suite chalet accommodation this break should not be missed.

INCLUDED:

- Free drinks 6pm to close every night – house wine by the glass, spirits, draft beers & soft drinks
- Entertainment – music, comedy, shows & dancing
- 4 nights chalet accommodation
- 4 breakfasts & 4 dinners



First GEAR MOTORING NEWS

- Volvo downsizes in new V40 hatchback
- Performance car is green for Volkswagen
- Jaguar's elegant XF Sportbrake



European unveiling for the Kia Ceed's next generation

Driving carsforkent.co.uk

By Sam Davison
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



AUDI A4 1st DRIVE

Price: from £23,625-£39,865
Driving appeal: ★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★★★
Value: ★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★
Reliability: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★★
Best rival: BMW 3-Series

Looking sharper than ever... Audi has a smart makeover

IT'S a German thing – this habit of describing a facelift model as 'the new generation' when it patently is not.

Still, we might forgive Audi on the occasion of the makeover for its major breadwinner, the current A4 launched in 2008.

There's a lengthy list of new things to note: apart from the cosmetics from a re-shaped bonnet, bumper, grille and headlamps, the engines have been fettled to produce impressive fuel and emissions improvements including start/stop on all units.

Perhaps most surprising is it's all been achieved in a climate of spiralling costs by raising prices just £200 a car – the range starts at £23,625.

Audi has also executed the changes at the same time across the entire range, from the big-selling saloon and Avant (estate) models to sporting S4 and S4 Avant variants and the chunkier Allroad quattro all-wheel drive estate.

There is no doubt that without radically changing the look of the range to the point where owners of the 2008-12 versions would be brassed off and see residuals falling, the new-look A4 has more visual impact – Avant models being particularly sharp.

Nor will those owners grumble about the A4's acclaimed chassis being upgraded; it hasn't and probably didn't need to, since the '08 car marked a point where this front-wheel drive executive star silenced traditionalists lauding its rear-driven German rivals, the Mercedes-Benz C-Class and BMW 3-Series.

For the A4 marries well-balanced handling and a good ride, as well as cruising quietly on motorways.

With money tighter than ever though, 'previous generation' owners may grumble – or upgrade – after hearing the gains made on running costs. In the most eco-friendly version, the £26,555 136PS (134bhp) diesel A4 2.0TDIe, average mpg now sits in the mid-60s – a figure most superminis cannot emulate.

It is also one of several revised A4s that escape road tax altogether due to low CO_2 emissions, while the Benefit in Kind taxation for company car drivers is just 13 per cent. And yet the car does not feel emasculated by its eco-friendliness.

On the other hand, there is plenty to tempt those who still want their executive model to be sporting too; the range flagship S4 Avant quattro (£39,865) for instance, accelerates hits 62mph in just 5.1 seconds and comes with a smooth shifting double-clutch S-tronic auto gearbox, with paddle shifts on the wheel for fast manual changes.

With a silky 333PS (330bhp) 3.0-litre six-cylinder petrol engine, it is a car that would be both practical and exciting to own.

Not so sure about the pumped up looking 177PS (175bhp) 2.0-litre diesel Allroad model I drove though. At £31,375 it looks a pricey way to suggest it might use its quattro all-wheel drive to go places its lower slung sisters might not.





DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS: The Audi S4 has revised headlamps to add a sharper look (left) as the German car-maker has changed the look of its entire range

DON'T LIKE

...the insistence on calling a facelift model 'new generation', but this is a pretty impressive makeover.

NOT SURE

...the A4 can yet overcome the BMW 3-Series for ultimate desirability in this sector, but on looks alone.

REALLY LIKE

...the way the car has been moved forward at its midlife point, with emphasis on making it greener and retaining a price edge.

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VAUXHALL

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MOTORING

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Little in large works for Insignia but has Vauxhall gone too far?

By Sam Davison
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

DROPPING a turbocharged 1.4-litre petrol engine into its Astra family hatch has been a sensible move by Vauxhall, attracting private buyers who would rather avoid diesel.

But has the Griffin brand gone too far by stretching the same little 140PS (138bhp) engine into the considerably bulkier Insignia family model and, especially, the Sports Tourer or estate version tested here?

Back to back with its 160PS diesel equivalent, this model feels quite light on its feet and refined unless you really put your foot down, though the diesel has slightly more urgent acceleration low down.

Then again, the diesel will cost you about £500 more upfront at list price, even if fuel economy is slightly better.

However, there is a strong argument now for economical small turbocharged petrol engines versus equivalent diesels: the 160PS diesel should average more than 50mpg – the little petrol will be in the late 40s – but you pay more for diesel at the pumps.

So, you need to cover a lot of miles in those early years to claw back your extra outlay on the diesel model and its fuel.

The green argument is not so clear either, because the petrol engine is a new generation low emission type and comes with an efficient start/stop system to drive down CO_2 emissions in congested traffic, meaning it is as clean as the diesel for road tax purposes – both cars sit in Band E (£115/year).

The result of all this is that company car user choosers will probably go for the diesel – private buyers will go petrol.

Looking at the Insignia Sports Tourer generally, it is one of the most handsome load luggers around. If it carried a prestigious German badge on the front too then there would be even more on the road.

VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SE NAV SPORTS TOURER 1.4 TURBO START/STOP: PRICE £26,100



Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£115
Best rival:	Ford Mondeo

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Tunbridge Wells	01892 500300

DIFFERENT STROKES: A tough choice for any new Insignia buyer will be which engine to choose; the slightly more economical diesel that costs £500 or the petrol version that come with fuel-saving start/stop

Remember that it won the prestigious European Car of the Year award in 2009, a fitting reward for Vauxhall/Opel's British design chief Mark Adams, who has done so much to transform the brand's cars.

Mind you, that sharply tailored estate car rear end means it can't compete for full on cargo capacity (1,530 litres) with its predecessor, the drab and hearse-like Vectra Estate. While the Insignia narrowly beats the old timer for boot space, the Vectra spaceship offered 1,850 litres of cargo space rear seats down.

Then again, Vauxhall has the Zafira and new and classy Zafira Tourer for those needing a convertible van, while German executive marques have already shown that modern estate buyers want style and prestige as well as practicality.

The Insignia is not a leader in the handling stakes, though it is worth checking out the tauter and more rewarding Sport chassis that comes as standard on the SRi line-up – the SE model, as tested, has the more pliant Comfort set-up, which can feel vague and unsettled under pressure.

Inside, the cabin mixes the quality and practicality that Vauxhall has deployed in an attempt to elbow into an 'upper mainstream' club with the likes of Honda and VW, and away from *hoi polloi* like Renault and in-house General Motors value brand, Chevrolet.

Though I wasn't impressed by the palette of browns and beiges in the test car, the Insignia cabin is a good place to be front and back, with lots of space to stretch out and excellent headroom – this is a big car for the money, provided you haggle against optimistic list prices.

Indeed, you wonder if Vauxhall has tried to fill two sectors with the Insignia, having axed the bigger Omega flagship model it used to offer.

First GEAR
MOTORING NEWS



Downsizing of executive style

VOLVO has unveiled its all-new V40 premium five-door, five-seat hatchback.

Inspired by the existing C30 coupé hatch, the newcomer will target executive car-buyers who want to downsize without giving up bigger car luxury.

With Volvo's highly effective DRIVe eco technologies on board the new range should also be tax efficient. Order books open next month, with deliveries in September.



Estate's grace will hit rivals

JAGUAR'S success with its medium-size XF saloon, made it inevitable that it would follow up with an elegant estate to rival cars like the BMW 5-Series Touring and Audi A6 Avant.

Called the XF Sportbrake it will carry a respectable maximum load of 1,675 litres, yet retains the saloon's excellent handling, says Jaguar.

The Sportbrake should be in showrooms by September.



VW's winning combination

VOLKSWAGEN might have solved a conundrum by producing a performance car with exceptional economy.

It's the Polo BlueGT, which has a turbo-charged 140PS (138bhp) petrol engine offering 0-62mph in under eight seconds yet also averaging around 60mpg by deactivating two of its four cylinders during most driving situations, and then firing up when needed. UK deliveries: to be confirmed.

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Period of Hire 35 Mths

12.0% APR

Period of Hire	35 months
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Deposit	£250.00
Retail cash price	£6,950.00
Acceptance fee*	£149.00
Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Total amount payable	£8,136.25
Amount of credit	£6,700.00
Representative APR	12.0%
Rate of Interest	9.72% fixed

Nissan Qashqai Hatchback 2.0 Visia 5dr



Period of Hire 48 Mths

10.9% APR

Period of Hire	48 months
48 monthly payments of	£225.00
Deposit	£1,000.00
Retail cash price	£10,000.00
Acceptance fee*	£149.00
Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Total amount payable	£12,009.00
Amount of credit	£9,000.00
Representative APR	10.9%
Rate of Interest	9.64% fixed

Citroen C2 Diesel Hatchback 1.4 HDi VTR 3dr



Period of Hire 34 Mths

11.7% APR

Period of Hire	34 months
34 monthly payments of	£99.00
Deposit	£1,424.74
Retail cash price	£6,500.00
Acceptance fee*	£169.00
Option to purchase fee**	£79.00
Total amount payable	£7,772.04
Amount of credit	£5,075.26
Representative APR	11.7%
Rate of Interest	9.22% fixed

Vectra Diesel Hatchback 1.9 CDTI Design (150)



Period of Hire 48 Mths

11.5% APR

Period of Hire	48 months
35 monthly payments of	£150.00
Deposit	£500.00
Retail cash price	£6,500.00
Acceptance fee*	£149.00
Option to purchase fee**	£60.00
Total amount payable	£7,909.00
Amount of credit	£6,000.00
Representative APR	11.5%
Rate of Interest	9.64% fixed

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Reg	Description	Colour	Mileage	Price
09 09	Volkswagen Fox 1.2	Black	14,650	£5,950
10 10	Volkswagen Fox 1.2 Urban	Black	14,300	£6,000
08 08	Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 16V Club 5-Door	Silver	4,050	£6,000
07 57	Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 CDTi 16v Design (150 PS) 5-Dr	Silver	51,190	£6,500
09 09	Citroen C2 1.4 HDi VTR 3-Dr Hatchback	Green	14,300	£6,500
04 04	Volkswagen Golf 2.0 FSI GT	Black	44,720	£6,950
10 60	Volkswagen Fox 1.4 Urban	Red	10,500	£6,950
09 09	Smart ForTwo 1.0 Passion 2-Door Cabriolet	Blue	4,700	£7,000
09 58	Peugeot 207 SW 1.6 HDi 90 Sport	Lunar	51,000	£7,000
09 09	Vauxhall Tigra 1.4i 16v Exclusiv 2-Door Cab	Black	30,500	£7,000
10 10	Vauxhall Meriva 1.6 16v Club 5-Door MPV	Lancelot	22,750	£7,000
11 11	Hyundai i20 1.2 Classic 5-Door Hatchback	Black	12,370	£7,000
07 57	Volkswagen Polo 1.4 S TDI (70 PS) 5-Dr	Black	44,300	£7,000
07 07	Mazda 5 2.0D Sport 5-Door MPV	Grey	49,780	£7,500
08 58	Renault Clio 1.5 dCi 86 Dynamique 3-Dr Hatch	Platinum	33,900	£7,500
09 59	Smart ForTwo 0.8 cdi (54BHP) Pulse 2-Door Cab	Black	21,500	£7,500
08 58	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Door Hatchback	Silver	30,990	£7,500
07 57	Vauxhall Astra 1.6T SRi Sport 16v 3-Door Hatch	Red	65,890	£7,500
08 08	Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 CDTi 16v Design 5-Dr Est	Blue	37,140	£7,500
10 59	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec (82 PS) 3-Door Hatchback	Avalon	7,810	£7,500
08 58	Toyota Yaris 1.3 VVT-i T Spirit 5-Dr	Black	33,305	£7,500
09 59	SEAT Ibiza SC 1.6 16V 105PS Sport 3-Door	Red	13,000	£7,500
08 58	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 Match (70 PS) 5-Dr	Silver	17,997	£7,650
10 60	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 S (60 PS)	Red	16,595	£7,950
06 56	BMW 1 Series 1.6 116i ES 5-Dr Hatchback	Red	47,268	£8,000
08 08	Skoda Fabia 3 1.4 TDI PD (80 BHP) 5-Dr	Black	44,900	£8,000
08 08	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Titanium 5-Door Hatchback	Black	51,675	£8,000
08 57	Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 CDTi 16v (150PS) Elite 5Dr	Silver	53,720	£8,000
09 09	Vauxhall Insignia 1.8i 16v VVT Exclusiv 5Dr	Silver	35,150	£8,000
08 08	Alfa Romeo 147 1.9 JTDM Sport Q2 3Dr	Grey	30,300	£8,000
07 57	Toyota Avensis 2.0 D-4D T3-S 5-Dr	Silver	50,770	£8,000
09 58	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec (82 PS) 3-Door	Avalon	28,200	£8,000
09 09	Peugeot 207 SW 1.6 HDi 90 S	Blue	47,465	£8,000
07 57	Jeep Cherokee 2.8 CRD Sport	Blue	55,100	£8,000
10 60	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 S (60 PS)	Black	5,500	£8,000
08 08	SEAT Altea XL 2.0 TDI Stylance 5-Door MPV	Red	56,790	£8,000
08 58	Mazda 6 1.8 TS 5-Door Hatchback	Blue	30,935	£8,000
08 58	Mazda 6 2.0TD TS 5-Door Estate	Silver	61,720	£8,000
08 08	SEAT Altea 1.9 TDI Reference 5-Door MPV	Red	24,655	£8,000
09 58	Toyota Auris 2.0 D-4D T Spirit 5-Dr	Blue	45,835	£8,450
08 58	Toyota Verso 2.2 D-4D SR 5-Dr	Silver	33,450	£9,000
09 09	Volvo S40 2.0 D SE 4-Door Saloon	Blue	76,150	£9,000
09 59	Citroen C4 1.6 HDi 16v VTR Plus 5-Door	Silver	8,000	£9,000
08 57	Renault Clio 2.0 VVT Renaultsport 197 3-Dr	Red	7,520	£9,000
10 60	Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 16V SE 5-Door Hatchback	Black	12,600	£9,000
08 58	Toyota Avensis 2.2 D-4D T180 5-Dr	Silver	54,250	£9,495
10 59	Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S (120 PS) 3-Door	White	16,200	£10,000
08 58	SAAB 9-3 VECTOR Sport 1.9 TiD 150 ANNIV 4 Dr	Grey	20,145	£10,000
09 59	Fiat 500 1.2 LOUNGE 3-Door Hatchback	White	4,835	£10,000
07 07	Nissan Qashqai 2.0 Visia 2WD 5-Door Hatchback	Blue	29,660	£10,000
10 10	Mazda 3 1.6 Tamura 5-Door Hatchback	Grey	24,642	£10,000
07 57	Mini Cooper S 1.6 (175BHP) 3-Door Hatchback	Grey	25,780	£10,000
06 06	Hyundai Santa FE 2.2 CRTD CDX 5-Door	Gun Metal	75,040	£10,000
09 58	Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi 16v (160PS) SRi 5-Dr	Black	29,395	£11,000
08 58	BMW 1 Series 2.0 118i M Sport (143 BHP) 5-Dr	Grey	35,200	£12,000
09 09	Mini Clubman 1.6 Cooper S 5-Door Estate	Silver	24,750	£12,000
08 08	Volvo V50 2.0 D Sport (R-Design) 5-Door Estate	Blue	46,825	£12,000
07 57	Audi A4 2.0 TDI (140 PS) S-Line	Silver	40,550	£12,450
08 08	Chevrolet Captiva 2.0 CDTi LTX 7 Seat 5-Door	Green	43,898	£12,450
08 08	Audi A3 Sportback 2.0 TDi S Tronic	Grey	38,000	£12,950
09 59	Ford Galaxy 2.0 TDCi Ghia (140 PS) 5-Door MPV	Silver	40,945	£14,000
09 09	Audi A3 Sportback 1.9 TDIe	Black	26,340	£14,000
07 57	Mercedes CLK 3.0 320 CDI Sport 2-Dr Coupe	Silver	23,700	£14,500
11 11	Nissan Qashqai 1.5 dCi n-tec 2WD 5-Door	Black	7,890	£18,000
08 58	Land Rover Freelander 2 2.2 Td4 XS 5-Door	Black	29,464	£19,000
07 07	Audi Q7 3.0 TDI quattro SE	Grey	44,155	£20,500
09 61	Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDI SE Cabriolet	Silver	5,000	£22,450
11 11	Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI GTD DSG 5-Dr	White	6,000	£28,950
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Kia sows the Ceed for its next generation

By Sam Davison
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT WAS only right that Kia's second generation Ceed family hatchback made its public debut at the Geneva Motor Show, ending this weekend.

The original car was created for the European market and built in Slovakia at an all-new car plant, and has since sparked a change in public perception of the ambitious Korean brand.

The Ceed arrived in the UK in 2007, prompting Kia to be seen not just as a value brand, but more mainstream, going on recently to be seen as cutting edge with models like the racy-looking Sportage SUV, plus sharp-suited Rio supermini and Optima family models.

The original Ceed was roomy, well-equipped, well-designed and finished – also launching Kia's unrivalled seven-year/100,000-mile warranty – and a decent drive, with the chassis further tightened at the car's midlife facelift.

Dealers will, no doubt, be offering some attractive packages on the car as they sell off stocks of the original over the next couple of months ahead of the new car's arrival around June.

But what will the new car offer over its predecessor?

For a start, the design this time will have the dabs all over it from Kia's German design meister Peter Schreyer – the man who penned the original Audi TT.

He arrived at Kia just as the Ceed had gone into production, but he has since then gradually displaced what he described as the brand's "neutral look" to a distinctive post-Ceed style epitomised by the 'tiger nose' corporate grille.



LOOKS CAN DECEIVE: Kia's second-generation Ceed (main picture) has moved on from its predecessor (below) and will be a real threat to top European models such as VW's Golf, Vauxhall's Astra and the VW Gold

The new car will be expected to seriously challenge top European models such as the VW Golf, Ford Focus and Vauxhall Astra this time by delivering top quality handling and ride, as well the old car's obvious practical qualities and value.



Powertrains have also been upgraded – though the previous car's 1.6-litre diesel was already a marvel – and there will be a dual-clutch transmission like VW's DSG enabling automatic transmission lovers to enjoy all the benefits of slick manual gear selection should they wish.

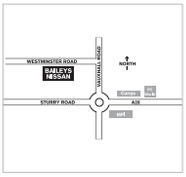
We can also expect the car to be competitively priced and equipped once more and backed by that stunning warranty – not that it's been needed much, since the Ceed has also proved utterly reliable, making it a popular used buy, too.

The only negative is that Kia intends to continue with the car's silly name, which should be written 'c'eed' and stands for something that nobody, but the most incorrigible car anorak would want to remember.

The five-door Ceed will also be accompanied by a new version of the SW estate model, which also proved a big success story and gained the further accolade of being bought by a hard-nosed fellow motoring scribe – endorsements don't come bigger.

Whether Kia will then follow up with a new version of the sporty three-door Proceed spin-off has yet to be confirmed.





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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Skoda range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) – 83.1 (3.4). CO_2 emissions for the Skoda range 237 – 89g/km.

MOTORSPORT

Competition fuels expectation as Brands braced for BTCC

By Fred Atkins
sports@kosmedia.co.uk

Picture: PSP IMAGES



READY: Racing should be intense in the upcoming BTCC season - which starts at Brands Hatch

BRANDS Hatch will host the opening round of the 2012 Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship later this month in what looks like being one of the most open championships for years.

Reigning champions Matt Neal and Honda Racing will start the year with a brand new Civic, built to the championship's new 'next generation touring car' regulations.

The rules, aimed at lowering costs, have seen grids swell to volumes last seen in the 1990s but they also present new challenges for existing teams.

With a new car to develop, Neal will face stiff competition from team mate Gordon Shedden as he bids for a record-equalling fourth title. In addition, two Civics will be built for the Pirtek team, of which one will be driven by 2011 contender Andrew Jordan.

Meanwhile Neal's great rival Jason Plato moves from Chevrolet to a brand new MG team. The Chinese-owned Birmingham marque enters a brace of MG6 saloons prepared by crack squad Triple 8, winners of several titles in the last decade, including Plato's 2001 championship.

Whilst the partnership is brand new, this pedigree means they cannot be discounted.

Wrotham's Motorbase outfit staged a strong challenge for the title in 2011 and with continuity in their favour, returning lead driver Mat Jackson will be a dark horse for overall honours this season.

The team start the year with a three-pronged attack, with Liam Griffin and promising Irish newcomer Aron Smith backing up Jackson's charge.

Veteran outfit West Surrey Racing have also elected to run three cars, their BMWs now powered by turbocharged engines to match the other frontrunners. Seasoned campaigner Rob Collard will be kept on his toes by fast youngster Tom Onslow-Cole, with Nick Foster retained for a second season.

In addition to the title favourites there are several promising teams and drivers that came on strong last year.

Frank Wrathall was one of the first drivers to take advantage of the new regulations and his Toyota is expected to challenge for wins this season. Rob Austin's Audi picked up pace during the year, whilst Thurrock's AmD Tuning have picked up promising newcomer Ollie Jackson to race their Golf.

Dartford's Tony Gilham will be given a huge boost, driving Shedden's 2011 Civic, so it'll be impossible to pick a winner for any of the three season-opening races.

In addition to the BTCC, there will be support races from the Renault Clio Cup, and fans will be able to follow the progress of Lewis Hamilton's brother Nicolas, the star of a recent TV documentary. Formula Renault UK, Porsche Carrera Cup, Ginetta Juniors and Ginetta GT Supercup are also on the bill for a packed weekend of racing.

Tickets for round one of the Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship at Brands Hatch are on sale from £25, with free entry for children aged 12 and under. Racing takes place over the weekend March 31-April 1.

For more information, call 0843 453 9000 or visit www.brandshatch.co.uk

Monza delight and win for Quaife-Hobbs

THE AutoGP season couldn't have started much better for Tonbridge's Adrian Quaife-Hobbs, after he picked up a win and a third-place at Monza at the weekend.



Quaife-Hobbs, 21, wasn't even sure he'd be driving until a day before practice was due to start but after jetting out to Italy on Thursday evening he was third-fastest in Friday's first practice session.

He improved in the second session to qualify on pole in his Lola and after a great start in Saturday's race he managed to build such a lead he was able to pull in for his compulsory pit stop on lap eight and still emerge in first place.

"I really didn't have any idea how it would be starting in this car, as we naturally hadn't had any time to test that prior to the race, but I made a perfect start to hold the lead into turn one," he said.

"I managed to break the tow early on and build up a 2.5 second lead over the first three laps. However on the fourth lap, the gearbox problem we suffered earlier returned, which meant I was losing time in the first sector as I couldn't change up quickly from first to second gear. So I had to really push hard on the rest of the lap to keep the advantage."

Despite those gearbox issues he comfortably held on for the chequered flag, though victory meant that he had to start from the fourth row in the second race due to a reversed grid for the the top eight finishers.

"Race two was far more eventful," he said. "I got a good start to hold position but didn't have quite the same pace as I had the rest of the weekend. Despite that we were in a good position to be challenging for a podium finish and when a few cars ahead of me collided, I was in the right place to pick my way through and get third place." The next round of the championship takes place in Valencia.

Picture: ADY KERRY



DISAPPOINTMENT: Jones saw his side lose to Afghanistan

CRICKET

Kent sign Newman on loan, as Jones' duck is blow to Papua New Guinea's T20 dreams

KENT have signed the opening batsman Scott Newman on a two-month loan deal from Middlesex.

"I am really pleased to be joining Kent for the opening months of the season," Newman said.

"I look forward to hopefully playing regular first team cricket and contributing to a successful start to 2012 for the club."

The 32-year-old left hander made his county debut for Surrey in 2002, before moving to Middlesex in 2009.

In a decade he has scored 8,415 first class runs at an average of 38.77, hitting 16 centuries.

"We are really pleased the agreement for the loan has been reached with Middlesex and we now hope that Scott will do very well for Kent," head coach Jimmy Adams said. "He will join us for pre-season when the squad returns from Antigua and remain with the squad for the whole of April and May."

There was not such good news for wicketkeeper Geraint Jones, however.

The England Ashes hero has switched his allegiance to the land of his birth – Papua New Guinea – and he jetted out last week to prepare for their ICC Twenty20 World Cup qualifiers in the East Asia-Pacific zone.

But in their first match against Afghanistan, Jones survived just six balls before edging a catch for a duck.

His side went on to lose to the war-torn country by six wickets.

The qualifying tournament continues.

Meanwhile, Kent have also announced a five-year sponsorship deal with Maidstone-based company LED Sport Europe, a company who supply permanent and temporary perimeter boards, scoreboards and replay screens.

As part of the deal the LED logo will appear on the players' training kit.

"This new package means that LED Sport Europe will become one of our main club partners," Kent's chief executive Jamie Clifford said.

"They join Spitfire, Cardy's and Demelza as one of the club's major sponsors."

RUGBY UNION

Wells lock horn with Bulls as team spirit shines again

By Fred Atkins
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IT'S not often you can lose a game by a 24-point margin and come away feeling happy, but Tunbridge Wells will go into this weekend's trip to Aylesford Bulls boosted by the way they rallied at East Grinstead last week.

The scoreline, a 36-12 defeat, doesn't make for encouraging reading, but after falling 31-0 behind after barely a quarter of the game had gone the Wells started to believe in themselves again.

James Gwinnet, key in last week's fight back, is unavailable due to work commitments, but the Wells are otherwise at full strength.

Hooker Alex Threlfall is back, Andy Burgess and Rory Reames both return, Alex Maynard is making the long trek down from Newcastle University to play and Mick Doherty is back at centre after shaking off the hand injury it was feared would keep him out for another week.

The selectors have rewarded Ryan Taylor-Dennehy with a start and the mood is confident ahead of the trip to the Jack Williams Ground.

"We're hoping that with a couple of wins from our last four games we should be okay," chairman Roger Clarke said. "We also think that Deal & Betteshanger, Heathfield & Waldron and also Sevenoaks, who got whipped by the bottom team (Old MidWhitgiftians) the other week could also get dragged into the picture."

Aylesford won 37-11 at St Mark's earlier in the season and also beat an experimental Wells line-up 44-7 in the Kent Cup, but their form has dipped of late and they are now fifth.

Picture: BRUCE ELLIOTT



DOWN BUT NOT OUT: Team close to full-strength for jaunt to Aylesford this weekend

Clarke feels his side, now 11th, learned a lot from the East Grinstead game.

"It was a psychological thing," he said. "They're a semi-professional outfit and they've got a lot of New Zealanders, so you could either say it was a bit of inexperience or that they were in awe of them.

"It has to be said they played really well for 20 minutes while we couldn't have played a lot worse. For one of their tries it was like we had a Cambridge University Debating Society out there, with players looking at each other."

Yet he was equally keen to praise his side's recovery. He said: "To be 31-0 down after 23 minutes and to win the next 57 minutes 12-5 showed tremendous spirit," he said. "You can't ignore those first 23 minutes but we could have been on for a try bonus."

FOOTBALL

Sides seek return to winning ways as form starts to slide

JUST when it seemed Tunbridge Wells had turned the corner, they suffered another set back in their pursuit of the Kent League runners-up slot when they lost 1-0 at Corinthian last week.

The Wells, who travel to Fisher Athletic on Saturday, went down to a second-minute goal from Corinthian's Adam Marsh, leaving them fifth in the table.

Saturday's opponents, Fisher, are 10th after losing 3-2 at home to Greenwich Borough. When the two sides met in January Tunbridge Wells thrashed Fisher 6-1 at the Culverden, with Andy McMath scoring after just three minutes. McMath and Ryan Rook both hit doubles, with Jack Harris and Gary Clark also finding the net.

In the Kent Invicta League Rusthall take on third-placed Bridon Ropes at Jockey Farm (kick-off 2.45pm).

The teams drew 0-0 when they met earlier in the season and Rusthall remain 12th in the table after a 3-2 defeat to a struggling Crockenhill side. Myrle Allen gave the Crocks a 1-0 lead on 22 minutes that they held until the



RUSTICS: Team needs a victory

break.

Ryan Doldin made it 2-0 midway through the second half, but on 68 minutes Joe Risby scored from the penalty spot to give Rusthall hope.

Doldin restored Crockenhill's two-goal cushion but with two minutes left Jack Funnell made it 3-2 to set up a tense finale.

CRICKET

South Africa provides the ideal season preparation

TUNBRIDGE Wells Cricket Club will be making a pioneering tour of South Africa at the end of the month as they prepare in style for the upcoming season.

A 15-man squad, comprised largely of first and second team players, will play seven matches against a number of high profile opponents, including a Western Province Chairman's XI.

It hasn't come cheap however, with the players contributing £4,000 each towards their accommodation and travel costs and a number of supporters will also be making the trip.

"It's the first time ever we've done this and it's an enormous, ground-breaking trip," the club's administrator Alan Cutts said.

"It was a big ask for the boys to find £4,000."

The tour begins on March 31 when the Wells take on Uitzig.

They then play Groot Drakenstein, Khayelitsha, Avendale, Stellenbosch Scorpions and Western Province, before a final match with Pinelands on April 11.

The concluding fixture has added significance for both sides because

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



CHEER: Club set to jet off on tour

Pinelands was one of the clubs where the former Kent and England player Bob Woolmer, arguably Tunbridge Wells' most famous son, once worked during his time in South Africa. He died during the Cricket World Cup in 2007.

The club will be supporting the Lord's Taveners charity on the tour and are looking for donations towards cricket costs.

Anyone interested should call the tour manager Fulton Paterson on 07884 490393.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

FOCUS WITH FRED ATKINS

Don't pay price of ignoring fans

"THE former chairman of a Kent football club once claimed that supporters should be treated like mushrooms: kept in the dark and fed manure (I paraphrase) every now and again.

The internet era now means that's a far more difficult task for anyone trying to run a football club for their own nefarious ends, but the implicit contempt for supporters displayed by the game's authorities is apparent every time a club's future is jeopardised by the actions of reckless or negligent individuals.

The Scottish FA's decision to brand Craig White "not a fit and proper person" to own Glasgow Rangers was a classic case of stable-door shutting.

Whyte's track record was a matter of public knowledge and yet the authorities did nothing to prevent him taking over at Ibrox and therefore have to take a share of the blame for the ensuing financial catastrophe.

This happens so often in football it indicates a systemic problem. Rangers' implosion demonstrates that even the biggest clubs remain vulnerable because the legislation protecting clubs is so weak it may as well be non-existent.

The English FA's "fit and proper person" test is nearly as laughable as the US immigration questionnaire that asks: "Have you ever participated in mass genocide?" and about as effective.

Between 1992 and 2010 a staggering 54 clubs became insolvent.

In almost every case however, the greatest damage is done to supporters and this cannot be measured in financial terms.

Fans who pay to attend matches are repeatedly subjected to lectures about their behaviour and the need to show 'respect'.

Yet the most glaring omission in the Respect agenda is the lack of protection for supporters, who are emotionally tied to clubs in a way that players, officials and administrators never will be.

This is the most vital relationship in the game. Without loyal supporters, lower league and semi-professional football teams would become glorified Saturday and Sunday league sides, playing in front of a handful of relatives - already the reality for some Kent League clubs.

Fans are entitled to ask why the authorities don't take preventative action.

The more plausible explanation is they are an afterthought.

Try finding a reference to supporters anywhere on the KCFA's website. Its Football Strategy 2008-2012 doesn't even mention supporters or fans and in their 2011-12 handbook, there are three references in over 400 pages, two of them concerning crowd control, the other a fleeting acknowledgement of the "sense of ownership" they feel.

For £51 you can order a criminal record check.

Failing this will stop you from working with young footballers, but history warns it won't prevent you from taking over their club."

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